

Full steam ahead

Despite Trump skepticism, Navy committed to electromagnetic aircraft launching system

By MISSY RYAN
The Washington Post

President Donald Trump last week renewed his questioning of the military's new system for launching aircraft at sea, underscoring his skepticism about a technology the Navy has put at the center of its future aircraft carrier fleet.

In a call to servicemembers Thursday marking the Thanksgiving

SEE QUESTIONS ON PAGE 3

‘Steam is very reliable, and the electromagnetic — I mean, unfortunately, you have to be Albert Einstein to really work it properly.’

President Donald Trump
on aircraft catapults

Petty Officer 3rd Class Damon Boyd lubricates an electromagnetic aircraft launching system catapult aboard the USS Gerald R. Ford in 2017.

JOSHUA MURRAY
Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Air Force to expand training of new pilots

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

Faced with a shortage of some 2,000 pilots, the Air Force's service academy is trying to churn out more pilot candidates.

More than 530 U.S. Air Force Academy cadets from the 2019 graduating class have been selected to attend pilot training, pending final qualifications and commissioning, the Colorado Springs, Colo.-based academy said in a statement last week.

The number represents a 26 percent increase over last year's graduating class, academy officials said. In 2018, 417 graduates were scheduled to attend pilot training.

The academy's superintendent, Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria, said in a statement that "we are proud as an institution to offer more flying opportunities to our cadets."

In looking to expand the pipeline to pilot training, officials said, the academy is working with Air Education and Training Command to produce more candidates capable of bypassing initial flight training, a less specialized form of pilot training

SEE SHORTAGE ON PAGE 4

By the numbers

At the end of last fiscal year, the Air Force had about 21,000 pilots. Even including newly trained pilots, the service needs about 2,000 to replace those leaving. To achieve that:

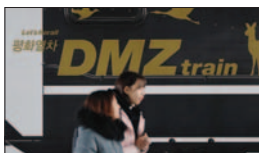
- The Air Force already has cut undergraduate pilot training from 54.7 weeks to an average of 49.2 weeks.
- Last year, the Air Force expanded a voluntary recall program for retired pilots from 25 to 1,000 slots.
- The academy also plans to add flight-related courses to the sophomore and senior years to help advance pilot-training candidates.

SOURCE: The San Antonio Express-News

PACIFIC

South Korea receives critical exemption for cross-border railway

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PACIFIC

USS Antietam sailors' missing advancement exams found at Yokota

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PACIFIC

UN approves field survey for Korea's cross-border rails

By KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea gained a sanctions exemption that will allow it to take the first step in a plan to reconnect cross-border railways with the North, the latest step in efforts to improve relations between the rival nations despite slow progress in nuclear talks.

The U.N. Security Council approved a plan for the two Koreas to conduct a field survey that will involve the import of fuel and other materials to the North, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

The decision was limited to the survey. Further efforts to modernize North Korea's railways and perform the work to reconnect the lines will be subject to additional exemptions, officials said.

The struggle for the exemption underscored concerns that differences between Seoul and Washington on the approach to the North could lead to a rift in the alliance forged in the 1950-53 Korean War.

The two Koreas have blown up guard posts in a jointly patrolled part of the border, established a liaison office in a North Korean border town and conducted numerous cultural and sports exchanges since the diplomatic process began in January, reversing rising tensions that had threatened to erupt in a nuclear war.

The United States has signed off on the steps taken thus far, and South Korea insists the allies are in lockstep and that it will stay within the constraints of the sanctions regime.

But Secretary of State Mike Pompeo sounded a warning last week that the inter-Korean rapprochement should be dependent on advances in the U.S.-led effort to persuade the North to give up its nuclear weapons.

He noted the longtime allies established a working group last week to strengthen cooperation and "be sure that we don't talk past each other."

"We do want to make sure that peace on the peninsula and the denuclearization of North Korea aren't lagging behind the increase in the amount of inter-relationship between the two Koreas," he told reporters on Tuesday. "We view them as tandem, as moving forward together."

The plan to reconnect the railways was first unveiled as part of an ambitious agreement reached between South Korean President Moon Jae-in and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un during their first summit in April.

Moon dangled it as an example of the economic rewards that could be reaped by the North if it abandons its nuclear program, which had prompted the Security Council to implement increasingly tighter sanctions in response to a



PHOTOS BY AHN YOUNG-JOON/AP

Above: South Korean activists march Sunday along military wire fences at the Imjingak Pavilion near the border village of Panmunjom in Paju, South Korea, during a rally demanding peace on the Korean Peninsula. Below: South Korean soldiers stand guard during the rally.



series of missile and nuclear tests.

Seoul announced plans to hold a groundbreaking ceremony by the end of the year, initially saying the joint surveys wouldn't violate sanctions before acknowledging that Washington had a different opinion.

The U.S.-led United Nations Command, which administers the southern side of the heavily fortified border, blocked passage of materials for the survey in August, citing procedural problems.

The railway project was a topic during the inaugural meeting of the working group chaired by the

U.S. special envoy for North Korea Stephen Biegun and his South Korean counterpart, Lee Do-hoon.

Unification Minister Cho Myung-yeon said the survey could begin as early as this month, although he acknowledged the need for the North to denuclearize before more significant investment could be made in the railway project.

"What is left is the issue of coordinating with the North Korean side on schedules," he told lawmakers Friday.

"We'll go through the processes required under the sanctions re-

gime," he said. "I can say that the U.S. basically supports overall inter-Korean relations."

Kim and President Donald Trump agreed to work toward the "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," during their landmark summit on June 12, but talks have stalled over details.

North Korea has called for the easing of sanctions in its negotiations with the United States, saying it should be rewarded for steps already taken toward denuclearization, including a testing moratorium on long-range and nuclear weapons.

The regime also has dismantled a missile engine testing facility and blown up its nuclear testing site, although U.S. officials and experts note the measures are likely reversible.

The Trump administration insists it will maintain economic pressure on Pyongyang until it sees more concrete measures, which have not been specified.

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MILITARY

Carrier sleeping policy changes after collisions

By COURTNEY MABEUS

(The Norfolk, Va.) Virginian-Pilot

NORFOLK, Va. — All Navy sailors working aboard aircraft carriers are now being given the chance to get eight hours of uninterrupted sleep per 24-hour period after a change in policy in the wake of two fatal collisions that killed 17 crewmembers in the Pacific Fleet in summer 2017.

The change extends to all carrier sailors, not just those working in aviation-related jobs, said Lt. Travis Callaghan, a spokesman for the Pacific Coast-based Commander, Naval Air Forces. It also makes it mandatory that all aircraft carrier sailors are not to be scheduled for more than 18 hours of continuous duties requiring them to remain awake. Previously, that was a recommendation that applied only to flight crews.

The Navy completed reviews of the entire force after the separate collisions of the destroyers USS Fitzgerald and USS John S. McCain on June 17, 2017, and Aug. 21, respectively, as well as incidents involving two other ships. Fatigue or ineffective manage-

“The reality is, a carrier is a 24/7 operation. When the nation calls us to execute the mission, they don’t call on us to execute the mission at 4 o’clock in the afternoon. They call on us at 3 o’clock in the morning.”

Cmdr. Bill Lane

USS Abraham Lincoln’s “air boss”

ment of sleep were found to be contributing factors in all of the incidents. That’s led the Navy to look at sleep’s impact on readiness.

The Navy’s surface fleet has moved to a circadian rhythm-based schedule, in which sailors work, eat and sleep at about the same time daily. Lt. Bobby Fedele, the plans and tactics officer aboard the Norfolk, Va.-based USS Winston Churchill, oversaw part of the rollout of the new policy during the destroyer’s deployment from April through earlier this month. In addition to ensuring that sailors got time to rest, it set a regular

routine rather than constantly having to shift sleep schedules, he said.

It also helped with planning and establishing patterns. Sailors who were used to standing watch at a set time daily could become accustomed to what was typical or what was not, Fedele said, like fighter jets leaving a military base at a set time.

“I knew weeks out who was going to be on watch for what evolutions,” Fedele said.

The Navy’s policy shift for carrier sailors was made in August. It was first reported by the Navy Times.

Capt. G. Merrill Rice, the senior medical officer aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, said studies have shown that working more than 18 consecutive hours can have the same effect as having a blood alcohol content of .08 or .10.

“The longer you’re awake, you’re just basically, essentially, performing under the influence of your own fatigue, but just not alcohol,” Rice said. “No one would say, ‘I’m driving a little drunk’ to your skipper, but we often will say, ‘I’m a little tired.’”

The challenge is shifting the culture for all carrier sailors while maintaining performance, said Cmdr. Bill Lane, who, as the Lincoln’s “air boss,” runs the ship’s flight operations. Solutions could include reducing operation tempos during noncritical times and reducing flight schedules, he said.

“The reality is, a carrier is a 24/7 operation,” Lane said. “When the nation calls on us to execute the mission, they don’t call on us to execute the mission at 4 o’clock in the afternoon. They call on us at 3 o’clock in the morning.”

Questions: Commander says operating the EMALS system not a problem for USS Reagan sailors

FROM FRONT PAGE

holiday, Trump asked the commander of the USS Ronald Reagan, a Nimitz-class aircraft carrier deployed in the Pacific, whether he supported using electromagnetics rather than the traditional steam system to catapult aircraft off carrier decks and land them safely back on board.

“Steam is very reliable, and the electromagnetism — I mean, unfortunately, you have to be Albert Einstein to really work it properly,” Trump said. “What would you do?”

Trump has repeatedly criticized General Atomics’ Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System, or EMALS, installed on the Navy’s newest carrier and slated to be used on other new ships. The debut of that system, the culmination of years of testing and development, has been plagued by delays and technical problems.

Capt. Pat Hannifin, articulating the Navy’s view, responded by telling Trump that EMALS would lessen the burden that steam-powered systems exact on carriers and was within sailors’ power to operate successfully.

“You sort of have to be Albert Einstein to run the nuclear power plants that we have here as well, but we’re doing that very well,” Hannifin said.

The exchange was the latest in a series of comments that Trump has made challenging Pentagon procurement decisions, illustrating his confidence that he may know more than his military leadership. The Navy did not seek an immediate response to the president’s comments.

Trump has also suggested he would ditch the military’s flagship fighter jet, the F-35, which has suffered from design flaws and come in over budget.

Of the Navy’s current fleet of

11 nuclear-powered carriers, only the newest one, the USS Gerald R. Ford, is equipped with EMALS. Even after its commissioning in 2017, shipboard testing for multiple systems on the Ford has continued, including EMALS.

In the past, problems emerged when EMALS was tested for launching aircraft with wing-mounted fuel tanks. Pentagon reporting

has likewise shown that critical failures occurred at a high rate during EMALS testing in 2017. More recent testing on land has been successful, and General Atomics says it expects EMALS and its associated landing system will help ensure the Ford is ready for fleet operations in 2019.

A recent Congressional Research Service report, however, said EMALS had met reliability requirements only after the Navy lowered its target for the system. “This lower target will also prevent the ship from meeting the program’s aircraft launch and recovery requirement,” the report said.

Trump has singled out the system before, saying last year that it cost more and was “no good,” suggesting the Navy should return to “good old steam.” More recently, he called the technology

“You sort of have to be Albert Einstein to run the nuclear power plants that we have here as well, but we’re doing that very well.”

Capt. Pat Hannifin
USS Ronald Reagan commander



Photos courtesy of the U.S. Navy

A sled moves along the flight deck of pre-commissioning unit Gerald R. Ford during a test in February 2016 of the waist catapults that comprise part of the ship’s Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System.



A sailor from the Ford’s air department loads an F/A-18F Super Hornet onto the EMALS in July 2017.

“ridiculous” while complaining broadly about the military’s desire for new equipment. It’s not clear how the president became interested in this somewhat obscure military technology issue.

Despite the president’s criticism, the Navy is planning to use EMALS in its future carriers, including three other planned Ford-class ships. The next one, the John F. Kennedy, is scheduled to be delivered to the Navy in 2024.

Navy officials maintain the system is superior because it takes up less room on the ship, reduces wear and tear for carriers and planes, increases the number of aircraft that can be launched and requires fewer personnel to oper-

ate. Over decades, naval officials contend, the system will create significant cost savings.

Unlike the older system, which uses a large, maintenance-intensive system of pipes and pistons to propel planes into flight, EMALS uses a more efficient linear-induction motor and is seen as more suitable for launching an array of aircraft, from drones to heavy jets. Shipbuilder Huntington Ingalls has likened it to “the system that powers many of today’s roller coasters.”

While it was not immediately clear how much of the Ford’s approximately \$13 billion price tag is represented by EMALS and its landing component, they have cost

hundreds of millions of dollars to field. Lawmakers and watchdogs have criticized the Navy for failing to produce realistic cost estimates for new carriers and incorporating new technologies that have slowed new carriers’ debuts.

China is expected to use a similar system on its future aircraft carriers.

While Trump, in his call Thursday, appeared to accept Hannifin’s defense of EMALS, it was not clear whether he will continue to question its value. “I’m actually happy about that answer because at least, you know, they’re doing what they’re doing,” he said. “But that’s actually a very good answer.”

MILITARY

Labor strikers impede base traffic in Italy

By SCOTT WYLAND
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — Striking Italian workers deliberately impeded traffic entering the Navy Support Site on Black Friday to protest what labor leaders say are too few Italians employed on base.

Italian union workers employed at most base departments, including the Navy Exchange and commissary, took part in the one-day strike timed for one of the busiest shopping days of the year.

Italian law allows workers to slow traffic outside the gate but not block it, base security officers said.

The strike caused moderate inconveniences for motorists and no reported disruption at the base stores as American employees and nonunion Italian workers handled the duties. Labor leaders said it was a way to express discontent with base managers not

addressing their grievances.

"Today we have to strike to have a little more attention," said Biagio Montefusco, a representative with the Confederation of Italian Workers' Trade Unions.

The status of forces agreement calls for Italians to make up at least 50 percent of the base workforce, and Italian employment is closer to 30 percent, Montefusco said. Base officials couldn't be reached Friday for confirmation or comment.

Too many U.S. Navy spouses and children are hired for jobs that Italians should fill, Montefusco said.

Base jobs are among the few options for dependents in Italy, where the SOFA makes it very difficult to work. Dependents must give up their SOFA status to be considered "ordinarily resident" and eligible for employment, according to U.S. Army Garrison Italy's website.

In the past six years, Italians employed at the commissary fell to 76 from 116, Montefusco said.

The Navy air base in Sigonella is having similar labor issues, he said. A couple of weeks ago, unions launched a two-day strike to protest plans to transfer Sigonella's Navy Gateway Inn & Suites to a private contractor who could use nonunion labor.

Labor leaders last met with Naples base command on Oct. 17, and no progress was made, said Bruno Mile, a union representative.

The base human resources office is supposed to address Italian workers' complaints, but often takes no action, Mile said. "You see no will to solve the problems," he said.

If discussions remain at an impasse, the union will consider more strikes, Montefusco said.

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SCOTT WYLAND/Stars and Stripes

Striking Italian union workers hinder heavy Black Friday traffic going into the Navy Support Site in Naples, Italy.

Shortage: Condensed undergraduate pilot training among plans to replace those leaving

FROM FRONT PAGE

that gauges aptitude for flight and introduces the rigors of military aviation and training.

Efforts are also being made to push candidates through condensed undergraduate pilot training to further reduce the time needed for getting new pilots into specific airframes, the academy statement said.

The Air Force already has cut undergraduate pilot training by as much as five weeks to more quickly replace departing veteran pilots, the San Antonio Express-News reported in June.

The abbreviated syllabus trims undergraduate pilot training from 54.7 weeks to an average of 49.2 weeks, the newspaper reported, allowing the best students to finish the course faster.

For its part, the academy is planning to add flight-related courses to the sophomore and senior years to help advance pilot training candidates.

Cadets already can take a variety of aviation courses, such as piloting a sailplane and flying a propeller-driven aircraft.

"The academy made the case that we could play a role in starting to solve this

critical Air Force issue," Silveria said of the pilot shortage. "We will continue to work with other major commands and Air Force leaders to do our part in solving this national defense challenge."

The Air Force at the end of last fiscal year had about 21,000 pilots. Even with an annual influx of newly trained pilots, the service still needs about 2,000 to replace those who are leaving, some for the more lucrative commercial airlines where there is also a pilot shortage.

The other services face similar problems, with fighter pilots a particular need, according to a Government Accountability Office study released earlier this year.

To fill the gap, the Air Force has tried to entice more pilots to stay in the service by increasing retention bonuses, eliminating nonflying duties and allowing select fighter pilots and air crew the chance to stay at some commands and bases longer to give them more stability.

The Air Force last year also began expanding a voluntary recall program for retired pilots, from 25 to 1,000 slots.

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CHARLIE RIVEZZO/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

More than 530 U.S. Air Force Academy cadets from the 2019 graduating class have been matched to attend pilot training pending final qualifications and commissioning.

Army colonel who launched influential online 'Warlord Loop' dies at 97

By GREG JAFFE
The Washington Post

John Collins, a retired Army colonel and veteran of three wars who founded and led a rollicking national security discussion group that helped inform some of the Pentagon's most influential thinkers, died Thursday at his home in Arlington, Va. He was 97.

There was no specific cause of death, said Sean Collins, his son.

Collins enlisted in the Army in 1942 and fought in World War II, the Korea War and in Vietnam, where he served as the senior planner to Gen. William Westmoreland, the commander of U.S. forces. But he was best known in

Washington for his achievements after he retired from the Army in 1972.

After he left the Army, Collins worked as a senior specialist in national defense for the Congressional Research Service, where he prepared reports on the U.S. military and national security strategy for members of Congress. There, he coined the "Five SOF Truths" which today remain the guiding principles for the training and employment of Special Operations Forces, said retired Army Col. David Maxwell.

Among Collins' "SOF truths" was the maxim that "humans are more important than (military) hardware." He warned that "Spec-

cial Operations Forces cannot be mass produced" and emphasized that Special Operations Forces could not be recruited and trained quickly in response to an emerging crisis.

But Collins' greatest contribution to U.S. national security was an online discussion group, called the "Warlord Loop," which he founded in 1998 at age 77 and oversaw until illness forced him to cede daily management of it when he was 92.

Collins came up with the idea for the group in the late 1970s when he was still at the Congressional Research Service but received repeated rejections from his bosses for more than 20 years.

His vision was a discussion group in which the national security thinkers could debate ideas without being bound by the typical bureaucratic restrictions, such as seniority, budgets and the built-in biases of the various military services. In 1998, the emergence of the internet allowed Collins to start the group on his own without any help from senior national security officials.

The Warlord Loop's influence was greatest in the years after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, when it became a place where officials from the Pentagon and State Department and troops serving on the front lines in Iraq and Afghanistan could debate the best ap-

proaches to battling insurgencies.

Collins often chose the topics that were discussed on the Warlord Loop, which eventually grew to almost 500 members. He also enforced rules of civility, declaring himself the group's "judge, juror and executioner."

Unlike the Pentagon, which relied on a strict chain of command, the Warlord Loop gave equal weight to all ideas regardless of the source. Junior officers and enlisted personnel who had battled through long deployments at distant outposts could share their experiences and ideas directly with senior officials working in the Pentagon.

PACIFIC

Sailors' lost advancement exams found at Tokyo base

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS

Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — USS Antietam sailors' advancement exams that had gone missing while en route to a Florida grading center were found Friday in western Tokyo, the Navy said.

Navy Fleet Mail Center Yokohama sent sailors to Yokota Air Base on Friday morning to search for the missing packages of completed exams, Capt. George Kessler, the cruiser's commander, said in a statement.

Kessler first told sailors Wednesday the exams had gone

missing in the mail on the way to Naval Education Training Professional Development Center in Florida for processing. They had been received at the Camp Walker Post Office in South Korea and on Thursday were tracked on a flight from Osan Air Base to Yokota.

That's where sailors ultimately found the packages Friday. They were then given to the Fleet Mail Center's mail clerks to be sent by express mail to Florida on Saturday, Kessler said in the statement.

The shipment is expected to arrive at the grading center Wednesday, but Kessler told sailors he

would "get the tracking information to verify that once it departs Yokohama."

"Moving forward, we will work with NETPPDC to determine the timeline for grading and publishing the results of your Fall Advancement Exams," he told sailors in the statement.

The Navy advancement exam is made up of 175 questions — 150 of which relate to the exam-taker's rating and another 25 regarding professional military knowledge.

If the tests had not been found, sailors would have had to take another advancement exam in the



WILLIAM McCANN/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Sailors stand watch on the bridge of the USS Antietam in the Sea of Japan on July 5. The Antietam sailors' advancement exams, which had been lost in the mail, have been located in Tokyo.

spring, Kessler said in a post on the Antietam's official Facebook page.

Kessler said in his Friday statement that his command would

"continue to update [Antietam sailors] on the way forward as exams arrive in Florida."

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US, Japan plan more single-enlisted housing at Yokosuka

BY HANA KUSUMOTO

AND CAITLIN DOORNBOS

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — The U.S. and Japanese governments have agreed to revise an agreement to build more family housing in Kanagawa prefecture in a move that will hand land back to Japan in exchange for the construction of single-enlisted housing and support buildings.

The two governments agreed Nov. 14 that Japan will build several new buildings — including more single-enlisted housing at Yokosuka Naval Base — while scrapping a previous plan to build additional units at Ikego Housing Area, according to Defense Ministry and U.S. Forces Japan officials.

"This agreement ... sets conditions for the construction of a new loading wharf, bachelor housing and improvement of living support facilities at Yokosuka, Ikego Housing Area and Tsurumi fuel depot in exchange for the release of the Negishi Housing Area in Yokohama to the Government of Japan," USFJ spokeswoman Maj. Genieve White told Stars and Stripes in an email Wednesday.

Japan's Defense Ministry said in a news release that "over 10 years have passed since the agree-

'The new bachelor housing will ensure that eligible single sailors assigned to Yokosuka are provided accommodations in line [with] U.S. Navy standards.'

Maj. Genieve White
U.S. Forces Japan spokeswoman

ment and the security situation surrounding our country has become severe and there have been changes to the posture and ability of the U.S. Navy, such as an increase in U.S. military vessel operations at Yokosuka Naval Base."

White said those changes align with the Navy's needs.

"The new bachelor housing will ensure that eligible single sailors assigned to Yokosuka are provided accommodations in line [with] U.S. Navy standards," she said. "There is currently an adequate quantity of family housing for those at Yokosuka, so the focus of the current [Facilities Adjustment Panel for Kanagawa] agreement was toward bachelor housing and community support facilities."

The governments also agreed to build a pier at Urako Ordnance Storage Area "to secure safe, effective and smooth operation of loading ammunition to U.S. ships," the news release said. It will also

build a fire station at the Navy's Tsurumi Fuel Terminal.

The Japanese government will also build support facilities such as an assembly hall and sports venue, as well as a repair shop and fire station at the Ikego Housing Area near Yokosuka.

The support facility additions will allow for the consolidation of multiple assets into one, White said.

"With regard to Ikego, the agreement benefits all U.S. Navy residents by constructing a new community support facility, which will upgrade and consolidate various functions, under one roof," she said. "The agreement also calls for the replacement of any existing community facilities that may be displaced by construction."

To speed up the process of returning the Negishi Housing Complex to the land owners, the governments will discuss joint usage of the housing area to start

the restoration work needed to use the land after it is returned, according to the statement. They will decide the area's return date based on the progress of any restoration work.

White said the release of Negishi "will be contingent upon specific construction milestones to protect the interests of both governments." She did not identify those milestones.

In exchange, the governments withdrew a plan to build additional housing on the Yokohama side of Ikego. The plan was first devised in 2003, when the U.S. and Japan agreed to return the Fukaya Communication Site, Tomioka Storage Area and most of Kamiseya Communication Station, as well as to build 800 additional housing units at Ikego. They also agreed to return the Negishi Dependent Housing Area after housing units and support facilities were built at Ikego.

The Fukaya and Kamiseya communication sites were returned in 2014, and the number of housing units to be built at Ikego was reduced. In 2014, the number of units shrank to 171.

Further details of the new plans will be released at a future date, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide

Suga told reporters Wednesday.

"The Japanese government will thoroughly explain the details (of the agreement) to the local communities, as well as to proceed with the procedure and work for restoration, which we hope to be done in about three years," he said when asked about the timeline for return of Negishi housing. "We want to continue to steadily proceed with the agreements reached."

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Camp Humphreys closes a main access gate after incident

BY KIM GAMEL

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Camp Humphreys, the main U.S. military base in South Korea, closed one of its main access gates this past weekend after an incident with a car.

The incident happened about 2 p.m. Saturday and did not involve a gate-runner, said garrison spokesman Steven Hoover. He declined to provide more details pending the ongoing investigation.

A photo posted on Facebook showed a four-door car that appeared to have smashed into a

raised barrier at the Dongchang-ri gate on Saturday, with the concertina wire and concrete walls that surround the garrison in the background.

The gate was closed after the incident, but the garrison said it would reopen at 10 p.m. Sunday.

The nearby Anjeung-ri gate, which is normally closed on weekends, was opened to facilitate traffic and will resume normal hours once Dongchang-ri reopened, according to the announcement.

It was at least the third gate-related incident this year at Humphreys, which has undergone a

major expansion in recent years as part of a frequently delayed plan to relocate most U.S. forces south of Seoul.

In April, a car going the wrong way through another gate prompted a lockdown of the garrison, but authorities said it turned out to be a misunderstanding involving a driver who went the wrong way by accident.

A South Korean man who drove through a gate without authorization was arrested in January.

The population at Humphreys, a sprawling base in the rural area of Pyeongtaek, about 40 miles south

of Seoul, has mushroomed to nearly 30,000 after the three main military commands — U.S. Forces Korea, Eighth Army and 2nd Infantry Division — moved their headquarters there, along with families and civilian employees.

Some 28,500 U.S. servicemembers are stationed in South Korea, which remains technically at war with the North after their 1950-53 conflict ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

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WAR ON TERRORISM

Russia targets Syrian rebels after alleged gas attack

By ALBERT AJI
AND BASSEM MROUE
Associated Press

DAMASCUS, Syria — Russian warplanes attacked rebel-held areas in northern Syria for the first time in weeks Sunday as Syrian officials said more than 100 people were treated at hospitals for a suspected poison gas attack in the northern city of Aleppo that Damascus and Moscow blamed on rebels.

The rebels, who have denied carrying out any poison gas attacks, accused the government of trying to undermine a truce reached by Russia and Turkey in September during a summit in the Russian city of Sochi. The targeted area is rebel-held and home to extremist groups opposed to the truce such as the al-Qaida-linked Horas al-Din, which has described the deal as a "great conspiracy," and the Ansar al-Din Front.

Russian military spokesman Gen. Igor Konashenkov told reporters in Moscow that Russian warplanes destroyed militant po-

sitions in northern Syria, blaming them for the attack with poison gas on Aleppo.

The latest wave of shelling and airstrikes in northern Syria is the most serious violation of a truce reached by Russia and Turkey that brought relative calm to the country's north for the past two months.

"The planes of Russia's Aerospace Defense Forces carried out strikes on the detected artillery positions of terrorists in the area, from where the shelling of Aleppo civilians with chemical munitions was conducted late" Saturday, Konashenkov said.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and the Thiga News Agency, an activist collective, said warplanes pounded rebel-held areas west and south of Aleppo city.

The airstrikes were the first since the truce went into effect on Sept. 17.

Syria's Arab News Agency, said Syrian troops pounded rebel positions near Aleppo. "Inflicting heavy losses among terrorists."



SANA/AP

Medical staff treat a boy following a suspected chemical attack on his town of al-Khalidiya, in Aleppo, Syria, on Saturday. Some 50 civilians were being treated following a suspected poison gas attack by Syrian rebel groups on the government-held city in the country's north, according to Syrian state media.

SANA said the alleged chemical attack late Saturday was carried out by "terrorist groups positioned in Aleppo countryside" that fired shells containing toxic gases on three neighborhoods in Syria's largest city.

Human Rights Watch's deputy director for the Middle East and North Africa, Lama Fakih, said "serious reports of suspected chemical weapon attacks should not be left without investigation." She added that all parties, including the Syrian government and

Russia, should facilitate an investigation by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons into the suspected attack in Aleppo.

Konashenkov said earlier that Russian chemical weapons specialists have been dispatched to Aleppo.

Russia is a close ally of President Bashar Assad and has intervened in recent years to turn the tide of the civil war in his favor.

"According to preliminary data, particularly the symptoms

shown by the victims, the shells that bombarded residential areas of Aleppo were filled with chlorine gas," Konashenkov said.

Syria's forensic medicine general director, Zaher Hajo, told The Associated Press that all but 15 of the 105 people who were treated have been discharged. He said two people who were in critical condition have improved.

The Observatory said 94 people were treated, with 31 remaining in hospitals.

US soldier killed in Afghanistan ID'd

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — An Army Ranger assigned to 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, was killed in action in Afghanistan on Saturday.

Sgt. Leandro A.S. Jasso, 25, was mortally wounded during a firefight with al-Qaida forces in Nimruz province, according to a Defense Department statement released early Sunday. He was medically evacuated from the combat zone and later died of his injuries at a medical facility in Helmand province.

Jasso, from Leavenworth, Wash., was on his third deployment to Afghanistan. He enlisted in the Army in 2012 and became an accomplished soldier, completing the Basic Airborne Course and earning the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the much-sought after Ranger tab.

Sgt. Jasso was a humble professional who placed the mission first, lived the Ranger Creed and will be deeply missed," said Lt. Col. Rob McChrystal, com-

mander of the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, in a prepared statement.

Jasso's death raises to 10 the number of U.S. troops killed in Afghanistan this year. Earlier this month, Maj. Brent Taylor, of the Army National Guard, was killed during an insider attack in Kabul that also injured another U.S. servicemember.

Most of the roughly 14,000 U.S. troops deployed to Afghanistan assist NATO's training and advising mission, while a smaller amount help with the U.S.' separate counterterrorism mission that targets groups like the local Islamic State affiliate.

"The loss of Sgt. Jasso is felt by his family and loved ones, by all who served with him and by all on this mission to protect our country and our allies," said Gen. Scott Miller, Resolute Support and United States Forces-Afghanistan commanding general.

About 2,400 American troops have died while supporting the Afghanistan War since it began in 2001; fewer than 1,900 of them were killed in combat.

Sunday marked the 17-year anniversary of the first American combat death, Johnny Michael Spann, a Marine veteran working for the CIA who was killed in a bloody prisoner uprising at Qali-Jangi fortress in Mazar-e-Sharif during the first weeks of the war.

Stars and Stripes staff contributed to this report. wellman.phillip@stripes.com

Jasso

Afghans clash with police after arrest

KABUL, Afghanistan — Hundreds of protesters have clashed with police in the Afghan capital after the arrest of a Shiite militia commander.

Kabul police spokesman Basir Mujahid said three policemen

were shot and wounded and another 20 were hit by stones thrown by the protesters, who torched two police checkpoints.

The demonstrations erupted after the arrest of Alipoor, who leads a Shiite militia in the western Ghor province and who goes by one name. It was not immediately clear what he is charged

with, but state-allied militias are often accused of extortion and other mafialike behavior.

During a previous attempt to arrest Alipoor in June, security forces in Ghor clashed with his followers, leading to the deaths of seven civilians and four police.

From The Associated Press

US and Britain mourn loss of Syrian activists

By SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

BEIRUT — U.S. and British officials mourned the loss of a Syrian anti-government activist seen as a "symbol" of the uprising who was shot dead along with his colleague by unidentified gunmen in a rebel-held area in the country's northwest, where government strikes on Saturday killed at least five people in violation of a cease-fire.

Dozens of Raed Fares and Hamoud al-Juneid's friends held a wake Saturday in their hometown of Kafarnabel in Idlib province, while scattered protests in opposition-held areas condemned their killing and blamed radical Islamists, of whom Fares was a vocal critic.

Fares and al-Juneid were buried Friday after a large silent procession where their bodies were hoisted on mourners' shoulders then carried in open-backed cars, wrapped in the flag of the Syrian revolution.

They "never shied from speaking the truth and upholding the original values of the revolution," said Jim Jeffrey and Joel Rayburn, U.S. State Department officials in charge of Syria policy.

The officials described them in a statement as "patriots" who documented the "crimes" of the Syrian government.

Al-Juneid was a cameraman who worked with Fares.

The British envoy to Syria, Martin Longden, called their killing a "loss to Syria and its future."

Fares brought global attention to Syria's war, and Kafarnabel, with his humorous English language protest banners that took jabs at his government and the international community's response to the conflict. He also was a vocal critic of the Islamist militants who gained sway as the conflict raged on and now control Idlib and his hometown.

Meanwhile, in Idlib, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and civil defense workers said government artillery shelled an opposition-held town, hitting students as they were leaving their school and killing at least three women and two children.

The shelling in Jarjanaz, to the east of Kafarnabel, is in violation of a cease-fire deal in place in Idlib since September. The Observatory said two others were also killed in the shelling.

NATION

Trial for driver in Charlottesville crash to begin

By DENISE LAVOIE

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — A planned “Unite the Right” rally by white nationalists in Charlottesville exploded in chaos: violent brawling in the streets, racist chants, smoke bombs and, finally, a car speeding into a crowd of counterprotesters, killing one and injuring dozens more.

Afterward, President Donald Trump enflamed racial tensions when he said “both sides” were to blame, a comment some saw as a refusal to condemn racism.

Fifteen months later, as the man accused of driving the car heads to trial on murder charges, the wounds are still raw. Few in Charlottesville believe the trial will do much to heal the community or the country’s racial divide.

“Hopefully, this will signal a chance for healing, although I am not entirely optimistic about that because the entire culture in which we live is so steeped these days in white supremacy and white nationalism that violence has become less an exception to the practice of American democracy



RYAN M. KELLY, THE (CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.) DAILY PROGRESS/AP

People fly into the air as a vehicle is driven into a group of counterprotesters at a white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Va., on Aug. 12, 2017. James Alex Fields Jr., the accused driver, heads to court Monday.

and more like a brutal showing of it,” said Lisa Woolfork, a University of Virginia professor who was in a crowd of counterprotesters when the car seemed to come out of nowhere on Aug. 12, 2017.

Heather Heyer, 32, a paralegal and civil rights activist marching about 100 feet away from Woolfork, was killed. The death toll rose to three when a state police helicopter monitoring the event crashed, killing two troopers.

ing counterprotesters.

James Alex Fields Jr., 21, an Ohio man known in high school for being fascinated with Nazism and idolizing Adolf Hitler, heads to trial Monday in Charlottesville Circuit Court. His attorneys declined to comment and have provided no hint of what his defense will be.

Fields was photographed hours before the attack with a shield bearing the emblem of Vanguard America, one of the hate groups that participated in the rally, although the group denied any association with him.

Pretrial hearings have offered few insights into Fields or his motivation. A Charlottesville police detective testified that as he was being detained after the car crash, Fields said he was sorry and sobbed when he was told a woman had been killed. Fields later told a judge he is being treated for bipolar disorder, anxiety, depression and ADHD.

Prosecutors played surveillance video that showed Fields’ Dodge Challenger held slowly in the direction of the counterprotesters, then move in reverse before speeding forward toward the counterprotesters.

Star Peterson, whose right leg was virtually crushed by Fields’ car, has had five surgeries and still uses a wheelchair and cane. She has been unable to return to work and has received help paying her rent and other bills from

Heal Charlottesville, a fund set up to help the injured.

Peterson said she’s been told by prosecutors that she’ll be called as a witness at Fields’ trial.

“I feel like it’s something I can do for Heather,” she said. “I’ll be testifying on her behalf.”

White nationalist Richard Spencer, who coined the term “alt-right,” said he has never had any contact with Fields and does not plan to attend his trial. He said he hopes the trial does not paint all members of the movement as violent.

Instead of strengthening the alt-right movement, the rally proved to be a disaster. The movement’s leaders are fighting lawsuits and have been kicked off mainstream internet platforms. A one-year anniversary rally held near the White House drew only about 30 white nationalists.

Heyer’s mother, Susan Bro, created the Heather Heyer Foundation to honor her daughter and provide scholarships to students in law, paralegal studies, social work, social justice and education.

Bro said she is doubtful the trial will bring her any sense of closure. Fields also faces a separate trial on federal hate crime charges.

“I’m not obsessed with him,” she said of Fields. “I feel like I’ve turned him over to the justice system. He’s their problem, not mine.”

President undermines his own effort to reduce deficit

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is demanding top advisers craft a plan to reduce the country’s ballooning budget deficits, but the president has flummoxed his own aides by repeatedly seeking new spending while ruling out measures needed to address the country’s unbalanced budget.

Trump’s deficit-reduction directive came last month after the White House reported a large increase in the deficit for the previous 12 months. The announcement unnerved Republicans and investors, helping fuel a big sell-off in the stock market. Two days after the deficit report, Trump floated a surprise demand to his Cabinet secretaries, asking them to identify steep cuts in their agencies.

This account of Trump’s deficit stance is based on conversations with 10 current and former officials in the White House and Congress. They spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe internal deliberations or private conversations. The White House has not responded to repeated requests for comment.

Administration officials have, for now, crafted a sparse plan that would recycle past proposals and call on Congress to trim federal spending on a variety of programs, two White House officials said.

But even as he has demanded deficit reduction, Trump has handcuffed his advisers with limits on what measures could be taken. And almost immediately after demanding the cuts from his Cabinet secretaries, Trump suggested that some areas — particularly the military — would be largely spared.

The president has said no changes can be made to Medicare and Social Security, two of the government’s most expensive entitlements, as he has promised that the popular programs will remain untouched.

When staffers sought to include an attack on Democrats’ Medicare-for-all proposals in Trump’s campaign speeches this fall, he initially blanched, two administration aides said. Medicare is popular, he said, and voters want it. Eventually, he agreed to the attack if he could say Democrats were going to take the entitlement away.

The plan is not expected to include large-scale tax increases, which would be a nonstarter with congressional Republicans.

In total, government debt has risen roughly \$2 trillion since Trump took office, and the federal government now owes \$21.7 trillion, according to the Treasury Department. The president’s agenda has contributed to that in-



SUSAN WALSH/AP

President Donald Trump talks with troops via teleconference from his Mar-a-Lago estate in Palm Beach, Fla., Thursday.

crease and is projected to continue to do so, both through the GOP tax cut and with bipartisan spending increases.

Also, Trump’s recent interest in the issue is at odds with his long-standing previous indifference, according to current and former aides. Three former senior administration officials said the deficit issue was rarely brought up in Trump’s presence because he had no interest in discussing it.

Trump repeatedly told former National Economic Council director Gary Cohn to print more money, according to three White House officials familiar with his comments. “He’d just say, ‘Run the presses, run the presses,’” one former senior administration official said. “Sometimes it seemed like he was joking, and sometimes it didn’t.”

Former Trump adviser must surrender to prison

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A federal judge on Sunday rejected a last-minute bid by former Trump campaign foreign policy adviser George Papadopoulos to delay his two-week prison term and ordered him to surrender Monday as scheduled.

Papadopoulos sought the delay until an appeals court had ruled in a separate case challenging the constitutionality of special counsel Robert Mueller’s appointment.

In an order Sunday, U.S. District Court Judge Randolph Moss said Papadopoulos had waited too long to contest his sentence after it was handed down in September. Moss noted that Papadopoulos had not “to appeal in most circumstances as part of his plea agreement and the judge said the challenge to Mueller’s appointment was unlikely to be successful in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Four federal judges have upheld Mueller’s appointment as proper.

“The prospect that the D.C. Circuit will reach a contrary conclusion is remote,” Moss wrote.

Papadopoulos had filed an initial motion on Nov. 16, nearly

two months after the deadline for appealing his conviction or sentence. He followed up with a request to delay his sentence pending that motion on Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving.

“Papadopoulos waited until the eleventh hour to seek relief; indeed, he did not file his second motion — the stay request — until the last business day before he was scheduled to surrender to serve his sentence,”



Papadopoulos

Moss’ 13-page order states, “He has only his own delay to blame.”

Papadopoulos pleaded guilty last year to lying to federal agents about his interactions with Russian intermediaries during the 2016 presidential campaign. He also forfeited most of his rights to contest his conviction.

Papadopoulos’ sentence, issued by Moss on Sept. 7, was far less than the maximum six-month sentence sought by the government but more than the probation that Papadopoulos and his lawyers had asked for.

NATION

Natural disasters become priority for new governors

By GEOFF MULVHILL
Associated Press

Governors have a wide range of priorities they want to tackle in the coming year, from tax reform to education. Yet it's a topic that receives less attention on the campaign trail and in their speeches that could determine their success — natural disasters.

In the last two years alone, storms and natural disasters have killed scores of people, damaged or destroyed tens of thousands of homes and cost tens of billions of dollars.

Wildfires in the West and hurricanes in the South have been especially destructive, and scientists say climate change is making that more common. As the severity escalates, governors are finding they have to make disaster planning a priority or risk the consequences of inaction defining their terms and enraging voters.

Handling disasters and emergencies was a prime topic last week when the National Governors Association held a three-day seminar in Colorado that most of the nation's 19 governors-elect attended.

"As California's wildfires, a spate of hurricanes, and unfortunate acts of mass violence have demonstrated, such events can occur at any time," Scott Patterson, the nonpartisan association's chief executive, said in a statement, "including a governor's first day in office."

For many Democratic governors especially, the main concern is how climate change appears to be worsening the effects of natu-

ral disasters.

In California, half of the 10 most destructive wildfires in state history have occurred since 2017, and the costliest have been in each of the past three years, according to the state firefighting agency. The state has spent \$500 million from its emergency firefighting fund just since July 1, putting this wildfire season on pace to be among the costliest yet.

The state is dealing with its most destructive wildfire ever, a Northern California blaze that leveled a town of 27,000 this month, killed at least 80 people and left thousands homeless. That blaze and another, that roared through Malibu at the same time and the latest at least three dead, are the latest in a string of catastrophic wildfires that have put the state in what seems like a perpetual state of emergency.

Outgoing Gov. Jerry Brown has called California's mega-fires "the new abnormal" as climate change turns the state warmer and drier.

The escalating destruction prompted state lawmakers to pass a series of wildfire-related bills this year. Among other provisions, they provide millions of dollars to cut trees and brush, make it easier for property owners to clear their land and require the state's utilities to step up their fire prevention efforts.

During his campaign, incoming Gov. Gavin Newsom said wildfire planning would be a priority for his administration and he outlined a number of steps he wants to take. Among them is a more



EVAN VUCCI/AP

President Donald Trump talks with California Gov.-elect Gavin Newsom, left as Gov. Jerry Brown, walks behind during a Nov. 17 visit to a neighborhood destroyed by the Camp wildfire in Paradise, Calif.

aggressive approach to clearing trees and brush, particularly the state's millions of dead trees.

He also proposed deploying a network of infrared cameras to detect wildfires early, improving the emergency alert system and boosting funding for fire departments throughout the state.

A spokesman, Nathan Click, said Newsom is putting together a comprehensive wildfire strategy as he prepares to take office in early January.

But the governor-elect also has been clear that the long-term goal must be reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

A massive federal report released Friday warns that disasters such as wildfires and hurricanes are worsening in the United States because of global warming.

It's similar in Texas, which has seen widespread destruction from hurricanes and where Republican Gov. Greg Abbott has been noncommittal about whether he thinks human activity is affecting the climate.

Texas has sought \$12 billion



COURTNEY SACCO, CORPUS CHRISTI (TEXAS) CALLER-TIMES/AP

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott surveys damage in Rockport, Texas, during a tour of damage from Hurricane Harvey on Aug. 28, 2017.

from the federal government for a 60-mile coastal "spine" of concrete seawalls, floating gates and steel levees as a defense against future hurricanes and higher tides expected from climate change. That's just a fraction of the work the state estimates need to be done over the next decade to

reduce the impact of flooding. In 2017, Hurricane Harvey left Houston underwater, killed dozens and left an estimated \$125 billion in damage. Abbott named a recovery czar after the storm and wants to "future-proof" the Texas coast, but attention on the issue has faded.

Nonprofit group challenges Georgia lieutenant governor's election

By CHEVEL JOHNSON
Associated Press

A nonprofit group and three Georgia voters are challenging the results of the lieutenant governor's election, arguing that there may have been tens of thousands of votes never recorded in the race.

The Coalition for Good Governance alleges that an accurate result in the Nov. 6 election can't be determined because of flaws and malfunctions in the electronic voting system, according to a lawsuit filed Friday in Fulton County Superior Court.

The conduct of the election "was so defective and marred by material irregularities as to place in doubt the result of the election under Georgia law. This court should, therefore, declare the

contested election invalid and set the date for a second election between the same candidates," the lawsuit states.

It said the large difference in votes for all other statewide races and the low reported participation rate in the lieutenant governor's race also are factors in the lawsuit, which names Secretary of State Robyn Crittenden and the Election Boards of Fulton, Gwinnett and DeKalb counties as defendants. Crittenden's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The declared winner was Geoff Duncan, who had 1,951,738 votes to Sarah Riggs Amico's 1,828,566.

The suit seeks a new election for the office and asks that it be conducted on paper ballots read

by optical scanners.

"Citizens must not permit flawed elections to stand," said Bruce Brown, an Atlanta-based attorney representing the plaintiffs. "Otherwise our democratic process fails. Until Georgia election officials commit to conduct fair and verifiable elections, the courts must intervene on behalf of Georgia voters. We look forward to a prompt resolution to this case and a new election conducted in a responsible and legal manner."

The lawsuit notes the lieutenant governor's race reported only 3,780,034 votes, while every other statewide race tally exceeded 3.843 million votes. The plaintiffs allege that "this high under-vote rate is a likely result of the touchscreen voting system malfunctioning

and that the un-auditable system does not permit a reliable determination of the vote count."

Georgia's election practices have been challenged repeatedly in court this year.

Democrat Stacey Abrams, who ran for governor, has promised to file a federal lawsuit over the way Georgia elections are run. She accused Brian Kemp, the state's new governor, of using his then-secretary of state's office to aggressively purge the rolls of inactive voters, enforce an "exact match" policy for checking voters' identities that left thousands of registrations in limbo and enact other policies to tilt the outcome in his favor.

The claims in the election contest filed Friday reflect many of the issues raised in the Curling

v. Kemp lawsuit regarding Georgia's flawed electronic voting system. The Coalition for Good Governance also organized that 2017 lawsuit now pending in federal court. The Secretary of State and the State Election Board have appealed the case, which is expected to be tried in 2019.

"Georgia voters must not be forced to accept election outcomes that cannot be verified and in which they have no confidence. The anomalies in this race, combined with the thousands of voters' complaints of malfunctioning machines, erroneous voter registration files, improperly rejected ballots, and irregularities in vote counts, cast tremendous doubt on the election," said Marilyn Marks, executive director of the Coalition for Good Governance.

NATION

‘It’s a new chapter of our life’

Calif. Woolsey fire evacuees struggle with how to rebuild

BY EMILY ALPERT REYES
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — From the ashes of his Malibu home, Wolter Mehring salvaged a coin collection that still gleamed in its blackened box. He and his son had been searching the wreckage with a metal detector on Saturday, looking for jewelry.

Little remained of the house where Mehring and his wife, Patti, had raised their four children. A bit of the brick chimney stood, heaped with a white mess that Mehring said was once an amethyst crystal from Brazil. Their chickens had not survived.

He was still watering an avocado tree that his father-in-law, now deceased, had once planted, hoping it would make it through. When the Mehriings left, they took little with them. Some passports. A laptop. They had been through fire in Malibu before.

“We always left. We always came back,” Wolter Mehring said. “We didn’t think about not coming back.”

Hundreds of Malibu, Agoura Hills and Thousand Oaks area evacuees spent the holiday week-end returning to their burned-out neighborhoods to survey their damaged or destroyed homes and to begin rebuilding their lives. Some were still debating whether to stay or leave.

The Woolsey fire, which straddled Los Angeles and Ventura counties, began Nov. 8 and killed three people, scorched more than 96,000 acres and destroyed 1,600 structures before it was fully contained on Thanksgiving Day.

Authorities on Sunday said the Camp fire in Northern California, which began Nov. 8 in Butte County, has been fully contained. The nation’s deadliest wildfire in a century killed at least 85 people, destroyed 14,000 homes and blackened more than 153,000 acres.

Rain is expected to move into the Camp fire burn areas beginning Tuesday and continue through the end of the week, according to the National Weather Service. Up to 3 inches could fall in lower elevations. On Wednesday, the same system is expected to deliver a half-inch to 2 inches in burn areas in Southern California.

Despite intermittent power outages and loss of cellphone and natural gas service in their neighborhoods, residents in the Woolsey fire zone in Southern California began returning over the last week as evacuation orders were lifted. Some orders remain in place for remote hillside and canyon areas.

And yet Mehring remained upbeat. His son Nathan was getting married in a week to his fiancée,



JAC C. HONG/AP

A home burned down by a wildfire sits on a hilltop overlooking the Pacific Ocean in Malibu, Calif. The wind-whipped Woolsey Fire erupted on Nov. 8 and spread destruction from Thousand Oaks to Malibu, west of Los Angeles, before it was contained.



RINGO H.W. CHIU/AP

Firefighters push a vehicle from a garage as the Woolsey Fire burns a home near Malibu Lake in Malibu, Calif.

Jackie Brody, who joined them in combing the ruins of the house.

The young couple were living on a sailboat after their tiny house nearby was destroyed. The boat was a bit cramped, but water was nice after the flames, Nathan said. And the disaster had calmed some of the wedding jitters, the couple said.

“No one expects too much from you anymore,” Brody joked.

At one point, the soon-to-be bride and groom had kayaked from Pacific Palisades up to Malibu by night to return to the Mehring house, where they found the family dog, a skittish terrier

named Maggie, alive amid the rubble days after the blaze.

They were calling her Miracle Maggie, Wolter Mehring said.

Mehring went back and forth about whether they should rebuild. His mother-in-law, 81, was set on staying. He had heard that Malibu would expedite building permits. And although he had lost some faith in local government during the disaster, he truly loved Malibu.

Maybe a concrete building could better withstand fire, he mused. “We’re definitely going to get rid of all the pine trees,” he said. “And the neighbors will

hopefully get rid of the eucalyptus. I’m too old for this.”

As they surveyed the charred house, Stefanie Colvig pulled up, offering split pea-and-ham soup. She worked at the same school as Patti. Another friend, Chris Ayotte, had stopped by with cookies.

“It’s a new chapter of our life,” Wolter Mehring said philosophically before he turning back to the debris. “I can’t say it’s boring right now.”

Along Trancas Canyon Road on Saturday, a woman snapped photos of the blackened wreckage of what was once an alcohol and drug treatment center. A wedge of scorched wall stood at a tilt, like a listing ship, peering over the Pacific below. Someone had taped business cards to a wall bordering the site, advertising a restoration business, but it was hard to imagine what could be restored.

The woman, who declined to give her name, said she had been sober nearly seven months. “This place saved my life,” she said.

The fire seemed to have hoppedscotched along Latigo Canyon Road as it snaked through the hillside overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

The charred mess of what once was a house sat next to a wooden swing that still swayed in the breeze, suspended from the sweeping branches of a tree overlooking the austere moonscape.

Down the road, Jeremiah Redclay chatted with neighbors outside a blue-gray stucco house that

still stood, its generator rumbling, at the corner of Ocean View Drive. Dogs tussled on the brick driveway. Carol King, who lived there, invited a neighbor in to charge her cellphone and offered up her restroom to another stranger.

It had become a gathering place for residents who stayed through the flames and those who trickled back afterward, a rare spot where cellphones could pick up service.

Redclay and his son, Elijah, 19, had remained in the neighborhood to fend off the flames with garden hoses while his wife, Briana, and their younger kids evacuated. At night, they slept on their driveway to prevent embers from creeping up on them. The sound, he said, was like bones breaking. At one point, his truck was engulfed in flames when he stepped away to extinguish another blaze.

“We didn’t have one firetruck up here the whole time,” Redclay said.

Briana Redclay had driven downhill in a car loaded with kids, belongings and their bulldog Forrest and waited for hours at the grocery store. When she asked a deputy which way to go, he said he didn’t know.

Firefighters who had left the hillside told her it was too dangerous up there. They drove in silence to her sister’s house in Toluca Lake.

Hours passed before they had any hint that Jeremiah and Elijah were OK. It was a text message from a stranger whose number her daughter had gotten, someone else who had remained in the blazing hills.

Days later, she and the kids walked back to join them before the evacuation order had been lifted.

Word was that school would begin again in early December, but the kids doubted it. Teachers had lost their homes, they had heard.

But in some ways, Jeremiah Redclay said, those days had been “kind of a gift.”

The children were outside, exploring the hillsides, untethered from their iPads. Neighbors they had never met became fast friends. A friend hosted a Thanksgiving dinner, filled with people who had stayed and tried to fight the blaze.

“People always think of Malibu as a place with tons of wealthy people,” said Redclay, an artist who paints egg tempera seascapes. “But the bulk of the people here are ordinary people that are hardworking. If you live here, it’s like living in a small town.”

And the fire had not made him hesitant to stay in Malibu. “I love it out here,” he said, gesturing toward the glittering horizon to the west. “You’re out of the city. You have the ocean. You always have that connection. For me, as an artist — this gives me that.”

‘We always left. We always came back. We didn’t think about not coming back.’

Wolter Mehring
Malibu resident

NATION

Protesters march after death of innocent man

By KIM CHANDLER
Associated Press

HOOVER, Ala. — Protesters on Saturday marched through an Alabama shopping mall where police killed a black man they later acknowledged was not the triggerman in a Thanksgiving night shooting that wounded two people.

An officer shot and killed Emantic Fitzgerald Bradford Jr., 21, of Hueytown while responding to the Thursday mall shooting. Police said Bradford was fleeing the scene with a handgun.

Hoover police initially told reporters Bradford had shot a teen at the mall, but later retracted the statement.

"We knew that was false," said stepmother Cynthia Bradford when she heard police were blaming him for the shooting. She described her stepson, who went by E.J., as a respectful young man whose father worked at a jail for the Birmingham Police Department.

Hoover Police Capt. Gregg Rector said investigators now believe that more than two people were involved in the initial fight ahead of the shooting, and that "at least one gunman" is still at large who could be responsible. Police said while Bradford "may have been involved in some aspect of the altercation, he likely did not fire the rounds that injured the 18-year-old victim." Rector said police regret that their initial statement about Bradford was not accurate.

The shooting remains under investigation, including whether Bradford played any role in the initial disturbance.

The unanswered questions stirred emotions in the suburb outside the majority-black city of Birmingham.

More than 200 demonstrators, including several relatives, chanted "E.J." and "no justice, no peace" as they marched past Christmas shoppers at the mall. They held a moment of silence at the spot outside a shoe store



KIM CHANDLER/AP

Protesters carry a sign reading "Justice for E.J." during a protest at the Riverchase Galleria in Hoover, Ala., on Saturday.

where Bradford was killed.

Family members described their horror of finding out from social media that Bradford was dead. Video circulated on social media of Bradford lying in a pool of blood on the mall floor.

Speaking to The Associated Press on Saturday night from his family's home, Bradford's father, Emantic Bradford Sr., called his son, "a good kid, a very good kid."

Bradford Sr. said his son had a permit to carry a weapon for self-defense. He said he doesn't know exactly what happened at the mall but said it was hurtful that police portrayed his son as the shooter.

"They were so quick to rush to judgment. ... I knew my son didn't do that. People rushed to judgment. They shouldn't have done that," Bradford Sr. said.

Family members said they plan to ask to see body camera footage from officers.

Hoover police have not confirmed to the AP whether such footage exists.

Carle Chavert, an activist in Birmingham who organized the protest, said that when authorities acknowledged that the person killed was not the actual shooter,

"that sent us in an uproar." More protests will be held in the future to hold officials accountable, he added.

"When we found out about this incident, there were questions from the jump. People were upset because a man was shot and killed by police in our own backyard," he said.

The incident began Thanksgiving night with a fight and shooting in suburban Birmingham at the Riverchase Galleria, a mall crowded with Black Friday bargain hunters. An 18-year-old man was shot twice and a 12-year-old bystander was shot in the back. Hoover police said Friday morning that the girl was in stable condition.

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency is investigating the incident since it is an officer-involved shooting. The Hoover Police Department is conducting its own internal investigation.

The officer who shot Bradford was placed on administrative leave while authorities investigate the shooting. The officer's name was not released publicly. The officers were not hurt.

With Sessions out, pot movement is energized

By KURTIS LEE
Los Angeles Times

He described marijuana as a "very real danger" and has said its effects are "only slightly less awful" than those of heroin. Once, during a drug hearing when he was a senator, he said he wanted to send a clear message: "Good people don't smoke marijuana."

So when Attorney General Jeff Sessions resigned recently, proponents of legalized marijuana — activists, politicians, investors — were pleased.

Sessions' departure has translated into surging stocks for cannabis companies and a reset of sorts for the legalization movement, which since 2012 has succeeded in nearly a dozen states.

Colorado Gov.-elect Jared Polis said Sessions "had it out for states that have legalized marijuana."

"No one thought about that," Polis, a Democrat, said in an interview. "In an ideal situation, the next attorney general would recognize the rights of states, like Colorado, to responsibly legalize and regulate marijuana and not interfere or even attempt to interfere."

Even Cory Gardner, a staunchly conservative Republican senator from Colorado, took a subtle swipe at Sessions after his departure: "I look forward to continuing to work with the president to fulfill his campaign position to leave the regulation of marijuana to the states."

While it's hard to know exactly what, if anything, acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker will do on the issue, activists are hoping they've escaped the toughest scrutiny. Although he has spoken at length about his views on marijuana, Whitaker, during his 2014 candidacy in Iowa for a seat in the U.S. Senate, sympathized with users of medical cannabis.

Ideally, the next attorney general would not go to trip away the threat of federal interference but also lay out guidelines for states with laws on the books, said Michael Collins, director of the Drug Policy Alliance, which advocates for marijuana legalization.

"The hope is that the next attorney general has drug policy ideas that are not straight out of the 1980s," Collins said.

After Sessions resigned, can-

nabis producer Tilray's stock rose 31 percent, Canopy Growth's stock was up 8.2 percent and Cronos Group's rose 8.4 percent.

Stuart Titus, CEO of Medical Marijuana Inc., — one of the first publicly traded cannabis companies in the U.S. — said Sessions' departure is good for the industry.

"Sessions' stance on cannabis has been a major impediment to ward cannabis reform, and now industry participants hold new hopes for sweeping change at the federal level," he said.

From the outset of his time as attorney general, Sessions was not shy about sharing his anti-marijuana stance.

Last year, he wrote letters to governors of states with legalized marijuana saying he had "serious concerns" about the effects of legalization and suggesting the states could face crackdowns from the Justice Department.

In his letters to three Democratic governors and the independent governor of Alaska, Sessions cited recent reports on the effect of marijuana legalization, listing problems with security, distribution and the controlled use of marijuana in the four states.

"The Department remains committed to enforcing the Controlled Substance Act in a manner that efficiently applies our resources to address the most significant threats to public health and safety in the four states."

In January, Sessions rescinded an Obama administration policy that directed federal prosecutors not to target marijuana businesses that operate legally under state law.

Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, a Democrat, who received one of the warning letters, said Sessions repeatedly ignored state constitutional amendments legalizing marijuana. "He was a stubborn stickler for the status quo," Hickenlooper said.

Support for legalization remains high. A Pew Research Center survey from October showed 62 percent of Americans support legalized marijuana, compared with 34 percent who want it to remain illegal. Support is double what it was in 2012. About 70 percent said they believed marijuana should be legalized. Nearly 7 in 10 Democrats say it should be legal.

Former CIA chief Hayden hospitalized after stroke

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former CIA Director Michael Hayden has been hospitalized after suffering a stroke last week.

A statement released Friday by Hayden's family said he is "receiving expert medical care."

Hayden, who is 73 and a retired Air Force general, led the CIA under President George W. Bush from 2006 to early 2009. He was also director of the National Security Agency from 1999 to 2005.

He is currently a visiting professor at Virginia's George Mason University, where he founded the Hayden Center for Intelligence, Policy and International Security.

He also works as a national security analyst at CNN, where he has been a frequent critic of President Donald Trump.

He published a book this year called "The Assault on Intelligence: American National Security in an Age of Lies."

Man just out of prison is accused of killing woman

By PAUL DAVENPORT
Associated Press

A man is accused of killing a woman on the same day he was released from an Arizona prison, authorities said Saturday.

David James Bohart was arrested at a hotel Friday on suspicion of second-degree murder in the death of Marika L. Jones, 49. Tucson police said they found her body with stab wounds at a house two days earlier as well as a file of prison records on Bohart.

He was released Monday from the Tucson state prison com-



Bohart

plex, where he served a three-year sentence for possession or use of dangerous drugs, the Arizona Department of Corrections website said.

A warrant was issued for his arrest when he failed to check in to a court-ordered treatment facility, police said.

Bohart, 34, remained in jail

Saturday.

Police said Jones' body was found after a man identifying himself as a lawyer from out of state called police Wednesday with information about a possible killing at the home. Authorities didn't release the caller's identity.

Police said they were already investigating in the same area after a man using a false name called 911 to report he had just been released from prison and killed his girlfriend. The man didn't provide an address, and police weren't able to immediately find anything.

NATION

Future of Oswald landmarks is uncertain

By MICHAEL GRANBERRY

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — Patricia Puckett Hall sat alone in her home at 1026 N. Beckley Ave., pondering the future while immersing herself in the past.

Hall is the third generation of women from the same family to have kept her Oak Cliff residence open as a rooming house. Her grandmother and mother are gone, but long after Hall is gone, no one will forget who lived in the house on Nov. 22, 1963, the day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas.

He was a tenant, a sullen, quiet man, whose name was Lee Harvey Oswald.

Fifty-five years after Oswald was taken into custody on suspicion of killing Kennedy and Dallas police officer J.D. Tippit — who was gunned down less than a mile from the rooming house — curiosity and questions remain.

People still want to know where Oswald lived, so busloads of visitors still flock to Hall's house, where she leads them on a \$40-per-person guided tour. She has restored Oswald's eerie, closet-like bedroom, which contains his same narrow bed and an upright armchair that housed his clothing and his handgun. The house as a whole has a Miss Havisham feel to it, as though it's frozen in 11/22/63.

But will it always be that way? A while back, Hall tried to sell for \$500,000. No one matched the offer. But her home and a nearby duplex, at 214 W. Neely St., where Oswald and his wife, Marina, lived in the months before the assassination, pose a daunting challenge to the City of Dallas:

What if these houses are sold? Will the buyer be as rigorous in maintaining history as Hall has tried to be?

Nicola Longford, chief executive officer of the Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, said the museum has not been approached in recent years about any "potential collaborative tour concept" shared with owners of the houses where Oswald once lived. Even

so, she said, museum officials "help guide any interested guests to visit other historical sites." And she did not rule out possible partnerships in the future that would explore the "overlapping" relationships between Dealey Plaza and houses linked to Oswald.

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings also weighed in, saying: "I'm a huge advocate for historic preservation and we'd be happy to talk to any property owner about ways we can further that critical cause anywhere in Dallas. That said, we have not heard from the owners and I'm not aware of any taxpayer funds allocated for programming or preservation related to those properties."

Part of what puts the Oswald houses at risk is the nature of Oak Cliff itself.

In recent years, developers have invaded Oak Cliff like a gentrification army. They are busily constructing, block after cluttered block, hipster apartment buildings, gourmet coffee shops, chichi shops and restaurants where even gourmands like to eat. The presence of not one but two Oswald houses is, at this point, strangely anachronistic.

David Spence, whose company Good Space has spearheaded much of the redevelopment and preservation in North Oak Cliff, said the house at 214 W. Neely St. can't be divided into anything more than its existing two units. It is a duplex. It could become a single-family residence but not a triplex, for instance. Zoning restrictions keep its use limited to what it is, and it can't be commercial.

Hall's house on North Beckley, however, could be expanded or converted into something else entirely. "That one," Spence said, "is a candidate for the kind of dense commercial and multifamily development we're seeing in North Oak Cliff."

That's the shorthand for saying that Hall's home, once lived in by Oswald, could easily become a high-rise apartment building, or yes, even a latte-selling Starbucks. Hall prides herself on having striven for years to preserve



PHOTOS BY VERNON BRYANT, DALLAS MORNING NEWS/TNS

Pat Hall sits inside the small room in her house on N. Beckley Avenue in Dallas, where Lee Harvey Oswald was living on the day of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, on May 2, 2013.

her chapter of Dallas history, but at 66, she admits she can't do it forever. At some point, she will have to sell, she said, or her two sons will own the home, and they will most likely sell, even to a developer who has different ideas of what to do with the property than keeping intact where Lee Harvey Oswald once slept.

The owner of the house at 214 W. Neely is listed in Dallas County property records as 1122 Holdings LLC. Officials for 1122 Holdings declined to be interviewed but did permit photographs on the property.

Speaking of, one that was taken in the backyard of 214 W. Neely is forever chiseled into infamy. It is a chilling black and white image of a smirking Oswald, holding his rifle, his handgun strapped to his side, taken by Marina in the spring before Kennedy died. It is one of history's darkest examples of a grim foreshadowing.

All of this adds up to a delicate



This is the house on N. Beckley Avenue in Dallas as it appeared on May 2, 2013.

issue of historical preservation, but the City of Irving gets kudos for figuring out how to do it and do it tastefully.

In 2009, the City of Irving acquired the former residence of Ruth Paine at 2515 W. Fifth St.

The house opened as a museum in 2013, near the 50th anniversary of Kennedy's death. The house is now on the National Register of Historic Places. Visitors have included history buff and talk show host, Conan O'Brien.

3 Chicago officers accused in Van Dyke shooting cover-up going on trial

By DON BABWIN

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Dashcam video showing Jason Van Dyke pointing his gun at black teenager Laquan McDonald and firing 16 times was key evidence in the murder conviction of the white Chicago police officer. The same video will be at the forefront again this week as three more officers stand trial, accused of lying to protect Van Dyke in the aftermath of the killing.

The trial starting Tuesday of David March, Joseph Walsh and Thomas Gaffney won't receive nearly as much media attention as Van Dyke's, but there's no

understanding the significance to using that same video to underscore what prosecutors call the Chicago Police Department's unofficial code of silence, in which officers cover for each other.

"When you go out and talk to people who are living in communities that have experienced police abuse, what really makes them feel betrayed and lose faith in the system is the officers who cover up what they've seen or don't say anything," said Christy Lopez, a Georgetown University law professor who led a federal probe of the city's police force.

The charges of conspiracy, misconduct and obstruction of justice boil down to the accusa-

tion that March, Walsh and Gaffney falsified their reports about the October 2014 shooting and didn't interview witnesses who could have provided accounts they didn't want to record.

Prosecutors contend that Walsh, who was Van Dyke's partner, and Gaffney, a patrolman, wrote among other things that McDonald assaulted Van Dyke. Gaffney claimed Van Dyke and other officers had been injured. Further, Walsh supported Van Dyke's claim that McDonald lunged at the two of them with a knife and, even after bullets knocked McDonald down, he "attempted to get up while still armed with a knife."

None of those details was apparent on the dashcam video that captured the incident and has been shown on news shows countless times since a judge ordered the city to make it public a year after the shooting.

Prosecutors say March — a detective who investigated the shooting and who along with Walsh has since left the department — not only cleared Van Dyke of any wrongdoing by saying the video matched witness accounts but also told another officer to include false information in her report. Gaffney remains on the force but has been suspended.

While no other officers have been charged, the special pros-

ecutor, Patricia Brown Holmes, said it is clear that others on the force, including brass, wanted Van Dyke to be cleared.

"The whole indictment is a sham, based not on evidence, but on politics," March's attorney, James McKay said at a recent hearing.

Lopez, the law professor, said a conviction would send a powerful message to police officers all over the country that, "You can be held accountable, even if you didn't pull the trigger."

Chicago's second trial in a matter of weeks to rely on the same explosive video will only remind everyone of that, he said.

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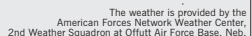
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Some retailers stumble into spending weekend



WORLD

Ukrainian navy: Tugboat rammed by Russian ship

MOSCOW — A Russian coast guard vessel rammed a Ukrainian navy tugboat, resulting in damage to the ship's engines and hull, the Ukrainian navy said Sunday.

The incident took place Sunday as two Ukrainian navy artillery boats and a tugboat were transiting from Odessa on the Black Sea to Mariupol in the Sea of Azov via the Kerch Strait, a narrow passage between Crimea and the Russian mainland.

"Russian coast guard vessels ... carried out openly aggressive actions against Ukrainian navy ships" during the transit, the Ukrainian navy statement said. It said a Russian coast guard ship damaged the tugboat's engine, hull, side railing and a lifeboat.

Russia's Federal Security Service told Russian news agencies Sunday that the Ukrainian ships held their course and violated Russian territorial waters, which were temporarily closed.

Israel: Visit by Chad's leader a 'breakthrough'

JERUSALEM — Israel's prime minister said the leader of the African nation of Chad arrived for a historic visit.

Benjamin Netanyahu said he planned to host President Idriss Deby on Sunday in Jerusalem. He said they would meet privately and then give a joint press statement before dining together.

It's the first-ever visit of a president of Chad, which broke off relations with Israel in 1972. Netanyahu called the visit "another diplomatic breakthrough."

Protests follow deaths in Kashmir gunbattle

SRINAGAR, India — Six rebels and an army soldier were killed in a gunbattle in Indian-controlled Kashmir on Sunday, officials said, sparking violent protests by residents seeking an end to Indian rule over the disputed region and leaving a teenage boy dead and 20 people injured.

Indian army spokesman Col. Rajesh Kalra said Indian troops surrounded a village in the southern Shopian area early Sunday, leading to an exchange of gunfire in which six militants were killed. An army soldier was killed and another wounded in the fighting, he said.

6 killed after argument in Haitian border town

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Six people were killed Saturday at the border between Haiti and the Dominican Republic after an argument, authorities said.

Haitian police inspector Harry Dery told The Associated Press that four customs officers and two civilians died in the town of Malpas.

He said the incident began when one officer shot a person who tried to cross the border with merchandise without stopping. A group of people then retaliated against police and burned them to death as they took refuge at a police station.

From The Associated Press



SAM MEDNICK/AP

A child soldier sits on the ground at a release ceremony at which he and others laid down their weapons and traded in their uniforms to return to "normal life" in Yambio, South Sudan, in February.

South Sudan plans new initiative to eliminate use of child soldiers

By SAM MEDNICK
Associated Press

JUBA, South Sudan — After coming face to face with "unpredictable," gun-waving children almost 25 years ago, the former commander of the failed U.N. peacekeeping mission during the Rwandan genocide dedicated his life to eliminating the use of children as weapons of war.

In an interview with The Associated Press in civil-war-torn South Sudan, Romeo Dallaire, who is widely known for warning the U.N. about Rwanda's massacre in 1994, said the current approach to combatting child soldier recruitment is not "sufficient." Local security forces must be part of the solution, he said.

"My personal experiences of having to negotiate with, having to face children with weapons ... may not have been the right way of doing it," Dallaire said.

His visit marked the launch of a three-year program by the

Canada-based Romeo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative. The \$2.2 million project funded by Global Affairs Canada aims to work with at least 1,200 South Sudanese soldiers, police and prison personnel. The first round of training will include 50 senior army officers.

With 19,000 children associated with armed groups, South Sudan has one of the world's highest rates of child soldiers, according to the U.N.

Almost 6,000 child soldiers have been recruited by government and opposition forces in the past four years of fighting, according to a U.N. report released in September.

"The figures are unacceptably high," Virginia Gamba, the new U.N. chief for children and armed conflict, said during a recent visit.

South Sudan leads the world with the highest number of child soldiers released, but rapid rates of recruitment are stifling progress. In the last two years, UNICEF facilitated the release of

more than 900 child soldiers, yet more than 1,650 children were recruited by armed groups over approximately the same period, according to the U.N.

"These kids' families were poor when they left and they're still poor when they go back, so kids return to the army once released," William Deng Deng, chairman of South Sudan's national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration commission, told the AP. While it's not government policy to recruit children, Deng said it happens because young socialize with armed groups in their communities.

In an attempt to break this cycle, the Dallaire initiative keeps in mind the realities that both soldiers and children face in conflict. By providing guidance to soldiers on how to interact with children in specific scenarios, the training focuses on behavior change, said Shelly Whitman, the executive director.

European leaders sign off on Brexit

By MICHAEL BIRNBAUM
AND WILLIAM BOOTH
The Washington Post

BRUSSELS — European leaders on Sunday signed off on their split from Britain, approving a deal that would set the United Kingdom on a new, if uncertain, road independent from the European Union after more than four decades of membership in the political and economic powerhouse.

The agreement — "historic," according to German Chancellor Angela Merkel — will cut Britain out of the European Union, marking the first time a nation has ever sought to depart. But the deal must still weather Britain's political storms ahead of the official March 29 exit date, with the key test next month when the U.K. Parliament puts it to a vote amid violent opposition.

No matter the uncertainty in Britain, it was a momentous occasion in Britain's 45-year-long membership in the European club and its torturous two-year effort to depart it.

The deal will almost certainly come with steep costs for both sides, leaving leaders in the extraordinary position of negotiating a split that they almost all believe will harm their citizens. Some EU leaders said they felt Sunday's deal was a tragedy.

The deal, approved unanimously Sunday by the remaining 27 EU leaders, would leave Britain in legal limbo — obligated to follow most EU rules but no longer a member — until the end of 2020 as leaders haggle over the relationship to come. The assent came after less than an hour of discussion.

"Today has been a historic day," Merkel said after the meeting, a rare and unusual gathering of European leaders on a chilly Sunday morning in Brussels. "My feelings are very divided. I feel very sad, but at the same time I feel a sense of relief."

British Prime Minister Theresa May, asked if she shared the unhappiness, said, "No, but I recognize that others do."

May said the British Parliament will now face "one of most significant votes Parliament has had in many years" and that she would campaign for it with all her heart.

"This is the deal on the table," she said. "It is best possible deal."

By the end of the deal, Britain will face a \$50 billion payment on its financial commitments on its way out the door. It will be tied to EU laws and regulations for years in some areas, and its ability to negotiate its own trade deals could be tightly limited.

Violent clashes continue as French protest fuel tax hike

Associated Press

PARIS — French police fired tear gas and water cannons to disperse violent demonstrators in Paris on Saturday as thousands gathered in the capital and beyond and staged road blockades to vent anger against rising fuel taxes.

Thousands of police were deployed nationwide to contain the eighth day of deadly demonstrations that started as protests against taxes but morphed into a rebuke of President Emmanuel Macron and the perceived elitism of France's ruling class. Two people have been killed since Nov. 17 in protest-related tragedies.

Tense clashes on the Avenue des Champs-Élysées that ended by dusk Saturday saw police face off with demonstrators who

burned plywood, wielded placards reading "Death to Taxes" and upturned a large vehicle.

At least 19 people in Paris, including four police officers, were slightly hurt, and one person had more serious injuries, police said.

Macron responded in a strongly worded tweet, saying, "Shame on those who attacked [police]. Shame on those who were violent against other citizens. ... No place for this violence in the Republic."

Police said dozens of protesters were detained for "throwing projectiles," among other acts. By nightfall, the Champs-Élysées was smoldering, and in the Place de la Madeleine, burned scooters lay on the sidewalk like blackened shells.



CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

A demonstrator stands by a fire on the Avenue des Champs-Élysées during a protest against fuel taxes Saturday in Paris.

WORLD



VADIM GHURDA/AP

A priest holds the box containing the remains of the Holy Hand of St. Andrew in Bucharest, Romania, on Saturday, a day before the dedication of the “Salvation of the People” cathedral.

Ecumenical patriarch blesses Orthodox cathedral in Romania

By ALISON MUTLER

Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania — Tens of thousands of Romanians gathered Sunday for the blessing of a grandiose Orthodox cathedral consecrated to mark 100 years since modern-day Romania was created in the aftermath of World War I.

Believers from all over the country and beyond stood outside the “Salvation of the People” cathedral to watch the service transmitted on giant screens on a misty morning in the capital.

The ecumenical Istanbul-based Patriarch Bartholomew I and Romanian Patriarch Daniel led the service, broadcast live on television, joined by 100 priests dressed in white-and-gold cassocks.

The 394-foot-high cathedral towers over a giant palace nearby built by the late Communist leader Nicolae Ceausescu. Six bells rang out after the blessing.

The church says the unfinished building has cost \$125 million, three-quarters of which was public money. Critics say the money would have been better spent on churches and hospitals. The state pays priests’ salaries and for church building maintenance.

Some 86 percent of Romanians are believers in the Orthodox church, which enjoyed a revival after communism ended in 1989. But its popularity has declined in recent years, particularly in cities.

Builder Constantin Dumitrescu, 47, an Orthodox believer, said the cathedral was “a much too big

investment for a poor country.”

Construction began on the neo-Byzantine structure in 2010. It was voted Romania’s most kitsch architectural structure in Romania in a 2017 online survey.

The cathedral aims to “honor Romanian heroes of all times,” Romania’s King Carol I passed a law for the cathedral to be built in 1884, but two world wars and decades of communism meant it never happened.

A group of ethnic Romanians from Ukraine dressed in colorful popular costume also attended the event.

“This is our faith, our soul,” said Elena Nandris, mayor of the southern Ukrainian village of Mahala, with tears in her eyes. “This is a once in-a-lifetime event.”

Indian police map area of island where US man was killed, buried

By ASHOK SHARMA

Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Police said they have mapped the area of a remote Indian island where tribespeople are seen burying the body of an American adventurer and Christian missionary after allegedly killing him with arrows this month.

But before they can attempt to recover the body of John Allen Chau, 26, authorities have to learn from experts “the nuances of the group’s conduct and behavior, particularly in this kind of violent behavior,” said Dependra Pathak, the director-general of police of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, where North Sentinel Island is located.

During their visit to the island’s surroundings on Friday, investigators spotted four or five North Sentinel islanders moving in the area from a distance of about

1,600 feet from a boat and studied their behavior for several hours, said Pathak.

“We have more or less identified the site and the area in general,” Pathak said by phone Saturday.

Indian authorities have been struggling to figure out how to get the remains of Chau, who was killed by North Sentinel islanders who apparently shot him with arrows and buried his body on the beach.

Friday’s visit was the second boat expedition of the week by a team of police and officials from the forest department, tribal welfare department and coast guard, Pathak said.

The officials took with them two of the seven people who were arrested for helping Chau get close to the island in an effort to determine his route and the circumstances of his death. The fishermen who had taken Chau to the shore saw the tribespeople dragging and bury-

ing his body on the morning of Nov. 17.

Officials typically don’t travel to the North Sentinel area, where people live as their ancestors did thousands of years ago. The only contacts, occasional “gift-giving” visits in which bananas and coconuts were passed by small teams of officials and scholars who remained in the surf, were years ago.

Indian ships monitor the waters around the island, trying to ensure outsiders do not go near the Sentinelese, who have repeatedly made clear they want to be left alone.

Chau went to “share the love of Jesus,” said Mary Ho, international executive leader of All Nations. All Nations, a Kansas City, Mo.-based organization, helped train Chau, discussed the risks with him and sent him on the mission to support him in his “life’s calling,” she added.

Saudi royal says crown prince not going anywhere

By AYA BATRAWY

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — A prominent Saudi royal said Saturday that whether or not heads of state gathered in Argentina this week for the Group of 20 summit warmly engaged with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, he is someone “that they have to deal with.”

Prince Turki al-Faisal told The Associated Press the killing of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi in the kingdom’s consulate in Istanbul last month is “an unacceptable incident that tares and mars the long record of Saudi Arabia’s own standing in the world.”

“We will have to bear that. It’s not something that should not be faced. And we do face it,” he said.

Intelligence officials and analysts say the operation to kill Khashoggi, who wrote critically of the crown prince for The Washington Post, could not have happened without Mohammed’s knowledge. The kingdom, which has offered several conflicting accounts of the killing, denies the crown prince had any involvement.

The crown prince embarked late Thursday on his first foreign tour since the Oct. 2 killing with a visit to the United Arab Emirates. He’s expected to visit other Mideast countries before going to Buenos Aires on Friday for the start of the two-day G-20 summit, where he’ll come face to face with world leaders.

President Donald Trump and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who has kept international pressure mounting on the kingdom, are among those ex-

pected to attend.

“Whether the leaders in that summit will warmly engage with the crown prince or not, I think all of them recognize that the kingdom as a country and King Salman and the crown prince are people that they have to deal with,” the prince said.

He said Saudi Arabia will continue to play a role on the world stage and that Trump’s statement of support for Saudi Arabia recognizes the importance of the kingdom.

Trump insists there’s not enough evidence to blame the crown prince for Khashoggi’s killing, despite a U.S. intelligence report’s assessment to the contrary. Trump says the kingdom is an important ally that has helped to lower oil prices.

“I thought President Trump was expressing what he felt was in the interest of the United States,” Turki said. “He emphasized the strategic relationship between the two countries in the same statement and how Saudi Arabia has been helpful in many instances — not just oil.”

The prince also firmly dismissed the U.S. intelligence assessments that the crown prince had ordered Khashoggi’s killing, saying these same intelligence bodies had a “remarkably flawed assessment” in 2003 in the lead-up to the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

“So we don’t take it as being, as I said, divine revelation,” he said of the U.S. intelligence reports.

Zimbabwe’s president says Mugabe can no longer walk

Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe — Zimbabwe’s former president, Robert Mugabe, 94, is no longer able to walk as his health declines, his successor said Saturday.

President Emmerson Mnangagwa told ruling party supporters that Mugabe has been in a hospital in Singapore for the past two months.

“He can no longer walk, but we will make sure to take care of him,” said Mnangagwa, who took over from his former mentor a year ago after Mugabe stepped down under military pressure.

Mugabe was the world’s oldest head of state before his dramatic exit following 37 years in power, a period in which he led the country from independence into re-

pression and economic collapse.

For years, Zimbabweans who saw their aging leader nod off during events speculated how long he would stay in office, while his wife vowed that he could rule from the grave.

In a rare public appearance in July, Mugabe slumped behind a bank of microphones during a press conference and didn’t leave his chair until reporters left.

In his remarks on Saturday to supporters at a rally in Mugabe’s home district, Mnangagwa said the former leader had planned to return to Zimbabwe on Oct. 15 but was not feeling well. Mnangagwa did not give further details about Mugabe’s condition.

He is now expected to return to Zimbabwe on Friday.

WORLD

Mexico denies report of US deal on migrants

By Cecilia Sanchez
and Patrick J. McDonnell
Los Angeles Times

MEXICO CITY — Mexico's incoming political leadership is denying a published report that it has agreed to a Trump administration proposal requiring asylum-seekers arriving at the southwest border to wait in Mexico as U.S. authorities consider their claims for safe haven.

The Washington Post reported Saturday that Washington had won the support of the government of Mexican President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador — who takes office on Dec. 1 — for a plan mandating that asylum-seekers at the border remain in Mexico as their claims move through the U.S. immigration system.

The Trump administration has long sought such an accord with

Mexico as a means of resolving what it has termed a "crisis" of escalating number of Central American asylum applicants — and limited detention space — which to hold them on U.S. territory as their petitions are considered.

Critics on both sides of the border have long assailed the notion of Mexico serving as a way station or detention grounds for Central Americans and others applying for asylum in the United States.

The administration of Mexico's current president, Enrique Pena Nieto, rejected a similar Trump proposal last year.

But The Post quoted Olga Sanchez Cordero, Mexico's interior minister-designate, as saying Mexico's new government had accepted the policy as a "short-term solution" to the issue of Central American migration — which has been dramatized in recent weeks

as thousands of U.S.-bound Central American migrants have made their way north through Mexico in caravans.

Later Saturday, the incoming interior minister denied that Mexico had agreed to host U.S. asylum-seekers as their cases awaited judgment.

"There is no agreement of any sort between the future Mexican federal government and the U.S. (government)," Sanchez Cordero said in a statement.

Moreover, the interior minister-designate said Mexico's new government had rejected any deal in which Mexico would be considered "a safe third country" for U.S. asylum applicants.

The White House has also pushed the alternative, "safe third country" approach in talks with Mexican officials. Under the safe third country plan, Central Americans seeking asylum would

generally have to file for protection in Mexico, not in the United States.

The "safe third country" proposal is a variant of the Trump administration's so-called "Remain in Mexico" plan, under which asylum-seekers would wait in Mexico until their cases were adjudicated in the United States.

With a safe third country designation, the United States would consider Mexico a secure nation to receive asylum applicants. In practice, that would bar most asylum-seekers who entered Mexico from filing asylum claims in the United States. The United States already has such a safe country understanding with Canada.

But immigrant advocates have long opposed a "safe third country" designation for Mexico for a number of reasons — principal among them the country's widespread and rising violence, which

often targets Central American migrants. Mexico cannot be considered "safe" for asylum-seekers, many argue.

Critics also say that Mexico's system for processing refugee requests is already overwhelmed and ill-prepared to handle a huge new influx.

More than 6,000 caravan members, mostly Hondurans, have arrived this month to the Mexican border cities of Tijuana and Mexicali, posing a humanitarian, logistical and political challenge for the two cities on the Mexico-California border.

Tijuana's mayor declared a "humanitarian crisis" on Friday as the border city sought additional federal and state aid to help house the migrants, most of whom are crowded into a sports complex a block from the U.S.-Mexico border fence.



RAMON ESPINOSA/AP

A migrant man pushes a child in a baby stroller past a cordon of riot police as he joins a small group of other migrants trying to cross the border together at the Chaparral border crossing in Tijuana, Mexico, on Thursday.



RODRIGO ARAUJO/AP

Honduran migrant Genesis Belen Mejia Flores waves an American flag at U.S. border control helicopters flying overhead near the Benito Juarez Sports Center serving as a temporary shelter for Central American migrants, in Tijuana, Mexico, on Saturday.

They're killing us in Honduras with US-made guns, some in caravan say

By Sarah Blaskey
Miami Herald

MIAMI — A group of Honduran military police officers — dressed in army fatigues, their faces covered in black masks — jumped from the back of pickup trucks around 11 p.m. on Dec. 1, 2017, witnesses say.

From the shadows, they opened fire on Alejandra Martinez, 20, and several dozen other unarmed young people burning tires in the streets of Tegucigalpa in protest of the recent presidential election. As bullets flew in every direction, Martinez ran, looking for shelter. She made it out alive.

Down the street, closer to where the officers emerged from the shadows, Kimberly Dayana Fonseca, 19, lay dead in a halo of blood and bits of her own skull. She was victim of a U.S.-made M4 fired by the Honduran Military Police for Public Order, investigators at the Public Ministry later told a reporter.

A 15-year-old boy was also critically injured that night by a bullet to the side, but survived, another likely victim of a U.S.-made weapon of war.

The Miami Herald found that the political violence in Honduras, which has contributed to an exodus of migrants, was sometimes carried out with U.S.-made weapons used by the government's paramilitary force. The Honduran military police should not possess U.S.-made rifles sold under private arms licensing agreements, according to the State Department.

Now, a year after dodging bullets fired by a paramilitary armed with U.S. weapons, Martinez is part of the caravan of thousands of migrants that left Honduras in October to make their way toward the U.S. border. The first migrants from the group just reached the U.S. border.

"We know that the guns come from the United States," Marti-

nez told the Miami Herald at the time of the bloodshed. "These guns have no business in Honduras. They should stay in the United States. They are sending them to Honduras to kill us."

More than a dozen people were shot and killed by the military police in the post-election violence, including several children, according to United Nations investigators.

The Honduran military and the national police have also been accused of human rights abuses, but in the wake of the 2017 elections, portions of both forces laid down their weapons, refusing to attack protesters. The military police were often deployed instead.

"The military police are trained to kill," Martinez said.

Official U.S. policy is to avoid supporting or associating with the Honduran military police in any way. Founded in 2013 as a supposedly incorruptible force in the fight against gangs, the

Honduran military police — a paramilitary force distinct from both the Honduran military and national police — have quickly earned a nasty human rights reputation, including for extrajudicial killings.

Yet, a photo on the Honduran government's website shows three phalanxes of the camouflage-clad fighters brandishing rifles that five independent experts identified as modern, U.S.-made M4s, a weapon whose international sale is highly regulated by the State Department. Other Honduran government photos show the military police carrying what experts said appeared to be the same style M4s during jobs dating back through the beginning of 2017.

Although each expert said it is possible, if extremely unlikely, that the M4s could be off-brand copycats, half a dozen Honduran military police officers told Herald reporters in late 2017 the forces in Tegucigalpa carry only

M4s that came from the United States.

The modern, M4-style firearms carried by the Honduran military police last year likely came from a private sale — known as a direct commercial sale — an arms deal between a U.S. weapons seller (usually the manufacturer) and the Honduran government. Licensing agreements for international weapons sales always require U.S. government approval.

The State Department authorized companies to export more than 10,000 firearms to Honduras between 2015 and 2017, according to information obtained by the Security Assistance Monitor, an organization that tracks U.S. arms deals.

According to the Federal Register, the State Department specifically approved private sales of M4 carbine semi-automatic rifles and accessories to Honduras in 2015 and again in 2017 of more than \$1 million dollars each.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Trolleys again rumbling through city's Loop area

MO ST. LOUIS — Trolleys are again carrying passengers in St. Louis' Loop area and University City.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported two refurbished trolleys began runs Friday through St. Louis' famous strip of shops and restaurants.

The \$51 million line runs for 2.2 miles between the western end of the Delmar Loop in University City and the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park.

The line opened last week but is operating on only part of the St. Louis segment until a bond agreement can be reached with University City.

Couple looking for pet peacock among turkeys

VT SPRINGFIELD — A Vermont woman whose family peacock ran off with a flock of turkeys said she hopes to get close enough to catch it with a net.

The peacock belonging to Rene and Brian Johnson has been on the run for more than six weeks.

Last week, the Johnsons posted a message on the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Facebook page: "My peacock has run off with the turkeys. Do you have any suggestions on how to catch the little twerp?"

Rene Johnson told WCAX-TV she thinks the bird she calls Pea was lonely so it sought turkey companions.

School will take food to cover parking fines

MI MARQUETTE — Some people issued parking tickets from Northern Michigan University can keep cash in their pocket if they donate items to the school's food pantry.

Donations of a variety of items can reduce or eliminate a fine of up to \$25, although no ramen noodles, please. The value of items is determined at drop-off, but the Marquette campus offers options in categories ranging from \$5 to \$25.

The Food 4 Fines program is similar to efforts elsewhere connected to parking or library fines.

Shoe sale gone bad leaves 2 women injured

FL ORLANDO — Authorities said a man shot two women during a shoe sale gone wrong and then stole a car, ditched it and attempted to car-jack another woman before taking off on a stolen bicycle.

Orlando police said the man then spotted a car left running while the owner opened a gate. He jumped in that car and fled. That car was later found on fire.

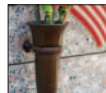
The Orlando Sentinel reported the women suffered injuries that are not considered life-threatening.

Investigators said the man had arranged to buy shoes from one of the women and shot them after trying to rob them.

THE CENSUS

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The number of bronze urns stolen from a cemetery in Lily, Ky. Deputies said a mausoleum was also vandalized in incidents they suspect are related. A news release said the Laurel County Sheriff's Office was investigating what happened at Cumberland Memorial Gardens near unincorporated Lily, about 6 miles south of London. The sheriff's office was notified by management of the vandalism in the mausoleum, which was reported as a forced entry into a tomb.



WARREN DILLAWAY, THE (ASHTABULA, OHIO) STAR-BEACON/AP

Chilly turkey trot

Trisha Patton dressed warmly during the Main Avenue Miracle Mile on Thursday in Ashtabula, Ohio. Several hundred people participated in the event which benefits Samaritan House, a local homeless shelter.

3D crosswalk is introduced to city

KS KANSAS CITY — Public works employees in Kansas City are testing what they described as a "three-dimensional crosswalk" in one neighborhood.

The Kansas City Star reported the crosswalk gets the name because of the impression the paint gives on the roadway. While it looks like a typical crosswalk from a distance, the blocks appear to float in the air when drivers get closer.

Public Works Department traffic engineer Lideana Laboy said the crosswalk is modeled after one in Iceland.

Laboy said officials wanted to try it because they thought it would have an effect on safety.

Deputies arrest man in store hostage situation

WA VANCOUVER — Authorities said deputies arrested a man after they said he

held people hostage in a vehicle in a Vancouver Walmart parking lot and then caused the store to go into lockdown when he fled.

Clark County Sheriff's Office investigators said three people were using meth in a car Friday morning when the driver claimed drugs and money were missing and wouldn't let them leave.

Investigators said the driver let a man out of the car to steal jumper cables from the store.

The sheriff's office said the man asked employees to call 911. When deputies arrived, the driver and a woman in the vehicle fled and the man ran through Walmart.

Deputies found him hiding behind an RV.

More artifacts recovered from pirate ship wreck

MA YARMOUTH — The man leading the exploration of a pirate ship that sank off the coast of Cape Cod 300 years ago said this year's excavations at the site have yielded hundreds of

bracelets and other artifacts.

Barry Clifford, who discovered the Whydah in 1984, told the Cape Cod Times that 600 of the bracelets, known as manillas, were recovered from the site before October storms put an end to this year's efforts.

The team also recovered a concrete containing the barrel and walnut stock of a musket that may date to the late 1600s or early 1700s.

The Whydah sank in 1717.

City passes limits on where scooters can roll

NC GREENSBORO — Scooters are returning to a North Carolina city after the company which deployed them took them off the streets so officials could revise regulations to accommodate them.

The News & Record of Greensboro reported the Greensboro City Council voted to allow the electric scooters to return, but only on streets where the speed limit doesn't exceed 35 mph. The council also approved a permit-

ting process that requires scooter companies to pay \$500 for a permit to deploy no more than 200 scooters in the city. Companies also would pay a \$50 fee per scooter.

Residents blame bobcats for slew of missing pets

NM ALBUQUERQUE — Some Albuquerque residents said bobcats could be responsible for the disappearance of several pets.

KOAT-TV reported residents said bobcats have been spotted near their homes. They said they have seen at least a female bobcat and her three kittens.

Residents said none of the bobcats has been aggressive, but they believe the animals are responsible for several missing cats, chickens and a duck.

Surveillance cameras at one home captured a bobcat walking through a yard with what appears to be some sort of animal in its mouth.

From wire reports

FACES

Calm, cool composer

Sweden's Ludvig Goransson is having the best year of his career

By MESFIN FEKADU
Associated Press

He's had his hand in two of the year's biggest pop culture moments — with the film “Black Panther” and the song “This Is America” — but unlike Michael B. Jordan or Childish Gambino, Ludvig Goransson can easily walk down the street like a regular dude.

At just 34, the talented and skilled composer from Sweden is having the best year of his career. He completed the film score for the uber-successful “Black Panther,” even traveling to Senegal and South Africa to learn about African music and work with local musicians.

He earned three nominations at this year's Grammy Awards for his production and songwriting work on Gambino's 2016 album, “Awaken, My Love!” and the duo reached even greater heights with the epic “This Is America” — and its heralded video — which went viral and became an instant No. 1 smash in May. Goransson also composed music for “Venom,” released last month, and returned to the “Creed” franchise to do its film score.

“It definitely feels like I'm living a dream. But I try not to pinch myself because I don't want to wake up,” the long-haired, easygoing musician said.

Oh, and he's even worked with Beyoncé and Jay-Z.

“I worked on a little trailer for the tour,” said Goransson, who is signed to Jay-Z's Roc-A-Fella. “It was just a short little thing, but still it was Beyoncé and Jay-Z. It doesn't get bigger than that.”

Goransson is clearly booked, and busy. He worked for months on “Creed II,” starring Jordan Peele, Sylvester Stallone and Tessa Thompson, saying the franchise “is so close to my heart” because the first film in 2015 was one of the first studio features he composed music for.

Goransson moved to America to study at the University of Southern California more than a decade ago, where he met Ryan Coogler and composed music for the director's student film. When Coogler directed the critically-acclaimed independent, “Fruitvale Station,” he called on Goransson. “Creed” and “Black Panther” soon followed.

“What's really great is that it was a very natural progress for us. Every time we worked together it was always like stepping stones together,” Goransson said of his relationship with Coogler, who didn't direct “Creed II” but is credited as an executive producer. “We're developing and we're getting to know each other more for every project.”

Goransson, who now lives in Los Angeles, grew up in Linköping, a small town two hours south of Stockholm. He started playing guitar at 7 — his father is a guitar teacher — and when he was 9 he fell in love with Metallica.

“That's when I was like, ‘OK, I want to spend 10 hours a day practicing guitar for the rest of my life,’” he said. “I wanted to be the best guitar player in the world. And then my dad got me a portable recorder, so I started writing my own music.”

He got a job assisting composer Theodore Shapiro — first working on the 2008 comedy “Tropic Thunder” — after graduating from USC.

“It was immediately clear that he had his own voice as a composer, and that's really rare,” said Shapiro.

“You can find a lot of people who are very proficient at doing other styles, but it's very rare that you find somebody who really arrives with a very unique sensibility, and that it's always been clear that he had that. He just thinks a little bit differently than everyone else.”

Shapiro's busy schedule wouldn't allow him to compose music for a then-new TV series called “Community,” which debuted in 2009. So he recommended Goransson.

It was where he met Gambino, then mainly known as Donald Glover. Working on a song together for the show led to Goransson and Glover trading ideas about for Gambino's 2010 mixtape, “Culdesac.”

They have worked tightly ever since.

Composer Ludvig Goransson in New York on Nov. 15.

CHRISTOPHER SMITH, INVISION/AP

Satanic temple settles lawsuit over TV show

Warner Bros., which produces “The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” on Netflix, said Wednesday that it has settled a lawsuit with the Satanic Temple, which waged a legal battle over the show's use of a statue featuring a goat-headed deity.

The temple's lawsuit, filed earlier this month, accused Warner Bros. and Netflix of copyright infringement. The temple said a statue of the deity Baphomet on the show looked similar to one the temple had created.

The case drew widespread interest in Hollywood because of the nature of the claims and because it raised broader legal questions about tensions between free speech and copyright protection. Legal experts said the dispute had the potential to change how Hollywood depicts cultural symbols in films and TV shows.

Warner Bros. confirmed that the lawsuit was settled, but said the terms of the agreement were confidential.

The Satanic Temple has used its version of the Baphomet with Children statue as part of its mission to separate church and state. The temple said it was concerned that a statue similar to its version of the Baphomet with Children statue on “The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” could cause people to make wrong assumptions about the temple and its practices.

Obama's book sells 1.4 million copies in a week

Michelle Obama's “Becoming” has become a massive hit.

Crown Publishing told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the former first lady's memoir has sold more than 1.4 million copies in print and digital formats in the U.S. and Canada in the seven days since it was released Nov. 13.

Based on demand from retailers across all channels, the publisher has printed 3 million hardcover copies in North America. On its first day, the book sold more than 725,000 copies, making it one of the year's biggest debuts.

Crown also said that “Becoming” is currently the No. 1 adult nonfiction title in the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Holland, Spain, Denmark and Finland. In Germany, some 200,000 copies have been sold, prompting a second printing of 100,000 copies.

Other news

One person has life-threatening injuries after a stabbing at a Pusha T concert in Toronto. Toronto Police Constable David Hopkinson said Nov. 21 that three others were treated at a hospital for minor injuries at the Danforth Music Hall late Nov. 20. Hopkinson said the patient who was stabbed remains in critical condition. Video on social media shows drinks being hurled onstage toward Pusha T and fights breaking out as people charge the stage. Hopkinson said someone rushed the stage and several people were injured, but it's unclear whether the stabbing victim was wounded inside or outside the venue.

From wire services

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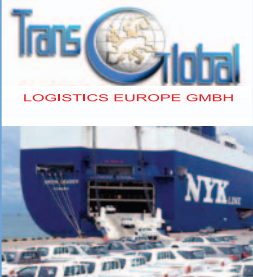
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OPINION

American needs to set aside its icons

By STAN MCCHRYSTAL
Special to The Washington Post

From my earliest days, Robert E. Lee felt close at hand. I attended Washington and Lee High School in Arlington, Va., and began my soldier's life at Lee's alma mater, the U.S. Military Academy.

Today, if Lee still lived in his childhood home in suburban Alexandria, Va., we would be neighbors.

So it felt appropriate, when I was a young Army lieutenant, that my wife bought me an inexpensive painting of the famed Southern warrior. And from the wall of the many quarters we occupied over 34 years, Lee's portrait was literally watching over me.

Through the lens of military history and our seemingly parallel lives, he was my hero — brilliant, valiant and loyal.

As early as his days at West Point, Lee stood out. His classmates nicknamed the studious, near-perfect cadet the "Marble Man." But over time, even marble's flaws become more visible.

In the summer of 2017, my wife, Annie, urged me to take down the picture. Disturbed by the images of hate and white supremacy that had descended on Charlottesville in the form of angry, torch-bearing men, she felt that Lee's picture risked offending guests to our home by sending an unintended message of agreement with the protesters who had sought to preserve a statue of the Marble Man.

Initially, I argued that Lee was an example of apolitical loyalty and stoic adherence to duty. But as days passed, I reflected on the way that Lee's legacy looked to people who hadn't grown up with my perspective or my privilege.

So, on an otherwise unremarkable Sunday morning, I took the painting off the wall and sent it on its way to a local landfill for its final burial. Hardly a hero's end.

Why did it take me so long to reconsider my thinking on the Marble Man?

While I've spent my life studying leaders and leadership, abandoning long-held beliefs, some based on comfortable myths, requires a journey that I suspect never ends. Our heroes, in addition to their strengths, almost always harbor profound imperfections.

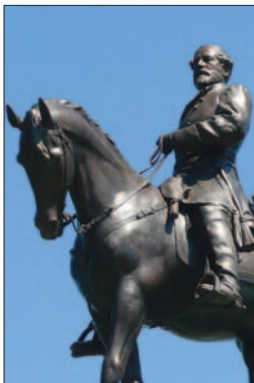
I still admire much about Lee, his integrity included. But to see him as I long had, through a single lens, was to fundamentally misunderstand the kaleidoscopic nature of leaders — and, more broadly, the nature of our past. No matter how much we study or how long we've lived, the hardest work we can do is to rotate the kaleidoscope, to see the world in a new light and to evolve our beliefs accordingly.

Such evolution takes time. And for all the years it takes individuals to grapple with their own perspectives, it takes even longer for organizations to follow suit. Institutions are conservative and slow to change, and the military is no exception. Steeped as we are in tradition and admired for consistency, it is difficult for the U.S. armed forces to develop new outlooks on warfare, social issues and, notably, their view of history.

The way I learned about Lee exemplifies the challenge that servicemembers can face in confronting their biases.

For most of my life, I focused on the genius and triumphs of the Marble Man. This was not surprising. No matter where I was living, there seemed to be a statue celebrating Lee's accomplishments.

My elementary school textbooks heralded Lee's successes on the battlefield. At West Point, he is commonly referred to as the ideal cadet — not just for his lack of de-



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

A statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee rises above Monument Avenue in Richmond, Va.

merits, but for his closely held values and his academic achievements.

But although the history was well-known, I cannot recall ever debating Lee's decision to command the Confederate Army against his nation, nor any serious discussion about his attitude toward slavery.

The military prides itself on being apolitical and focused on the moral good. Yet those tenets have also served as an excuse to avoid conversations about contentious or uncomfortable topics, such as race, politics and sexuality. Yes, those are inherently political issues, but military leaders cannot afford to pretend they don't exist, as the American military is necessarily, and appropriately, a reflection of American society.

The U.S. military plays a major role in shaping our collective memory. In the years after the Civil War and the subsequent Reconstruction, for instance, there was a tacit agreement in the Army (as in much of society) that we wouldn't treat the South as if it had lost — which is one reason so many Army bases (including Forts Bragg, Benning, Polk, Hood and Lee) are named after Confederate generals.

It would be foolish to think that the Army made these decisions unintentionally. Many officers knew full well the signal that these names would send. Whether you revere or revile Confederate soldiers, it's impossible not to see that their legacy is still with us.

Many Americans face the same problem. We want to be proud of our past, so it's tempting to look at only the best aspects of it. It's more comforting to think of Lee as a tragic hero than to try to understand his complex relationship with blacks today — so we focus on the simpler narrative.

Similarly, we perceive the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001, as a time of unity in the wake of tragedy, ignoring the virulent anti-Muslim fervor that still affects parts of our country. In an effort to remember only the finest of our past, we often present our history as tidier than its reality.

War is often subjected to this tendency to clean up, or at least oversimplify. It is hard to discuss the periodic incompetence, cowardice and criminality that are associated with every military campaign in history without seeming to detract from the very real courage and sacrifice of the vast majority of soldiers.

And nothing is more difficult than portraying war in its gritty, brutal reality, or the darker side of soldiers, without the risk of confusing Americans about whether our cause is just or our nation a force for good in the world.

As Pericles and others have taught us, we must honor the kinds of service that we seek to have repeated in the future. We must salute and remember the veterans who stepped forward to serve while admitting the complexity of the environment in which they had to operate.

Last week we celebrated our nation's romanticized notion of Thanksgiving — a version, we know today, that does not reflect the reality of the first celebration of this holiday, in which the bonhomie was a small consolation to indigenous Americans enduring a colonial English conquest.

When we choose how we view history, we risk mythologizing events and people, reducing them to two-dimensional stories.

It takes nothing away from Abraham Lincoln's heroic stewardship of our nation through the Civil War, for instance, to admit that he was still a creature of his era. A part of his career, he saw slaves as vital laborers for white wage-workers and thought they should go back to Africa. Frustratingly, our instinct to sanitize history ensures that we are always looking backward for our better angels, struggling to meet a standard that remains forever out of reach.

There is, in the end, little point in studying a version of history that contains cartoons and monuments rather than real people with nuanced actions and decisions — people whose complexities can teach us about our own. As we come to learn more about our world and ourselves, it is crucial to re-examine our role models and our enemies.

There is tremendous value in wrestling with the errors over which history commonly glosses. Coming to terms with the humanity of a leader makes it much more likely that you can be a leader yourself.

We are facing a crisis in leadership today — and organizations and individuals both have a role to play in correcting course.

Organizations are often at their finest when they are used as instruments for social change, especially when that change is necessary for the greater good.

President Harry S. Truman's executive order desegregating the military is a magnificent example of how leaders can help speed up institutional change. We are a long way from solving racism in our country, but Truman's decision was an important step in changing the hearts and minds of our soldiers, their families and society writ large.

The same logic can be extended to the inclusion of women in combat and the open service of LGBTQ troops. It's for these reasons that the military must recast its view of history. The actions of our military leaders have a profound effect on the American psyche — but they cannot make this change alone.

As President John F. Kennedy put it, "The great enemy of truth is very often not the lie — deliberate, contrived and dishonest — but the myth — persistent, persuasive and unrealistic."

We must combat our desire to mythologize our history and our leaders while retaining our belief in the qualities and ideals those myths often reflect.

Stan McCrystal, a retired Army general, is the founder of the McCrystal Group, a leadership advisory firm. He is a co-author, with Jeff Eggers and Jason Mangone, of "Leaders: Myth and Reality."

OPINION



Above: Paul R. Lawrence, Department of Veterans Affairs undersecretary for benefits, testified that "the allegation of widespread veteran homelessness due to missed payments is false."

Right: Retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Robert M. Worley II, director of education service for the Veterans Benefits Administration, told lawmakers that "where we have underpaid our beneficiaries, we will make them whole at the time the IT fix goes into effect."



PHOTOS BY JOE GROMELSKI/Stars and Stripes

House veterans affairs' subcommittee on economic opportunity Chairman Rep. Jodey Arrington, R-Texas, makes his opening statement at a Capitol Hill hearing this month on delays in GI Bill payments.

VA vows post-9/11 GI Bill allowance delays near over

By TOM PHILPOTT

Special to Stars and Stripes

Blaming old computers and unanticipated software challenges, the Department of Veterans Affairs saw its pending claims inventory from Post-9/11 GI Bill participants peak in mid-September at 207,000, which was three times higher than normal for the start of a fall semester.

The sudden backlog caused payment delays of the housing allowance that student veterans rely on to pay monthly rent and other living expenses.

The backlog now is down two-thirds, to 73,000. But 11,000 of the remaining claims are more than 30 days old and 1,000 are more than 60 days old, violating the VA standard to process GI Bill claims within 28 days, officials conceded to the House veterans affairs' subcommittee on economic opportunity this month.

Lawmakers criticized VA leaders and legacy computer systems that seem to defy modernization despite Congress year after year allocating hundreds of millions of dollars for VA information technology upgrades.

VA officials in turn cited a web of aging and interconnected computer systems, but also a new law that added mind-boggling complexity to a GI Bill allowance, depending on where, when and how students use their benefits.

Paul R. Lawrence, VA's undersecretary for benefits, vowed that GI Bill users won't be inconvenienced by systemic payment delays for the spring training semester. But he also warned that housing allowance payments still might not be accurately calculated by then because the software challenges persist.

Testifying with Lawrence, officials responsible for administering GI Bill benefits, and others for programming computers to ensure timely and accurate payments, said they underestimated the complexity changes directed by the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act signed into law in August 2017.

That law also is called the "Forever GI Bill" because it eliminated the 15-year time limit on using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits for

MILITARY UPDATE

veterans given final discharges or releases from active duty on or after Jan. 1, 2013. It removed the same time limit for children of deceased servicemembers who became entitled to GI Bill benefits on or after that date, and for surviving spouses using the Fry Scholarship program.

However, to pay for those and other benefit enhancements, the new law also changed in two ways how the Post-9/11 housing allowance feature is calculated for new users to save billions of dollars. Indeed, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that GI Bill allowance savings will total \$3.4 billion through 2027.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill allowance is set to match the military Basic Allowance for Housing rate for married enlisted members in pay grade E-5. That rate varies by housing locale and is adjusted annually to keep pace with local rental costs.

The first change made by the Colmery Act required that the allowance be based on where students physically attend classes rather than the location of colleges or schools where students are enrolled. So, if a college is headquartered in a city but students take courses at smaller town campuses or online courses from suburbia or rural residences, the allowance falls. Current GI Bill users, however, are protected from the change; it applies only to students who initially enroll in classes on or after Aug. 1, 2018.

The second allowance change also applies prospectively, to veterans who first use their GI Bill on or after Jan. 1, 2018. That change takes account of how Congress has dampened the value of military housing allowances in recent years by adopting a five-year plan to curb inflation adjustments to rates by a four percentage point per year. Congress had exempted the GI Bill stipend from that initiative. The Colmery law repealed the rate protection for new student veterans. Those who began using their GI Bill before Jan. 1, 2018, continue to receive the higher nonadjusted allowance rate for E-5, which the military no longer uses.

As late as July this year, VA officials had

reassured lawmakers that despite the complexity of these changes, and rising difficulty making software changes across separate older computer systems, the changes would be made in time to avoid significant payment delays for the fall semester. That forecast was wrong. The House subcommittee this month pressed officials to explain why.

Rep. Jodey Arrington, R-Texas, its chairman, reminded Lawrence that four months ago VA promised delays would be short and would not significantly affect students. Yet some student veterans are "in pretty bad situations" from allowance delays "and we're hearing from them."

What particularly irked Arrington and his colleagues, he said, is that, after missing its own mid-August deadline to have software upgrades completed, the VA refuses to set another deadline so lawmakers can hold the department to account.

"VA still does not know when they will be ready to deploy proper payments to GI Bill recipients," said Arrington. "I find the delays simply unacceptable" particularly those "stretching over 60 days. Some of these guys are going to have some real hardship, maybe even personal family crises, as a result of this."

Lawrence said the VA continues "to work on getting this right." Previously allowances were set using the schools' facility codes for main campuses. The new law recognizes that students can earn multiple credits at different locations including with internships, externships, seminars and workshops. Zip codes of locations where students earn credits is the new way for setting allowances, and software must capture the location where most semester credits are earned.

That requires new, more complex computations and it's all "far more complicated than originally estimated," Lawrence said. "We're planning for the possibility we may not have the new software ready for the spring semester. Should that happen we'll be prepared to process claims as we have been doing to ensure students continue to receive their allowances, and schools will receive their tuition payments. We will continue to do that for as long as necessary."

For student veterans getting higher allowances than the new law allows, the VA won't

seek reimbursement, Lawrence promised. The VA's director of education service, retired Maj. Gen. Robert M. Worley II, underscored that point to skeptical lawmakers.

Because of delayed software changes, Worley said, "we are paying incorrect housing to our beneficiaries. Depending on when they started school, some of those beneficiaries are receiving about \$69 more than they should be getting because we haven't applied the new [Defense Department] rate to them. Others who are existing students already are not receiving a less than 1 percent increase that was implemented with the DOD rates" and should have been applied to student allowances Aug. 1.

"We don't have the breakout of exact numbers as to which is which," said Worley. "But we will not go back and try to recover the overpayments once the [information technology] fix is in. And where we have underpaid our beneficiaries, we will make them whole at the time the IT fix goes into effect."

When that will occur is unclear. Lawrence, Worley and the IT team supporting the GI Bill said software solutions to complex rate calculations are still being written for installation across several legacy computer systems and then testing, a process that is months old and could take several more months to complete.

Meanwhile, the old, inaccurate allowance rates must suffice, Lawrence said.

"This fall 460,000 veterans went to school using the GI Bill. The allegation of widespread veteran homelessness due to missed payments is false," he said.

"We have received very few what I would call confirmed cases of anyone actually being evicted" because they couldn't pay their rent, Worley said.

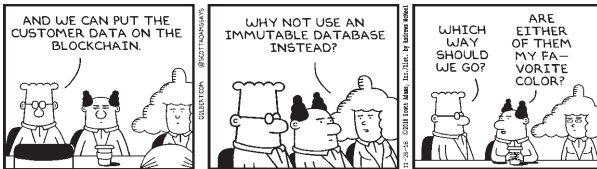
Any veteran experiencing financial hardship because of unpaid GI Bill claims can request expedited claim processing and get a check or bank deposit within three to five days, Worley said. They should call 1-888-GIBill or 1-888-442-4551.

Sends comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA, 20120; email mlupdate@aol.com; or Twitter: @Military_Update.

Frazz



Dilbert



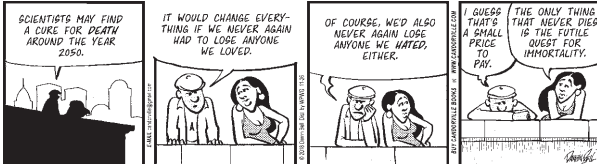
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11			12		13			14			
15					16			17			
18				19		20		21			
		22		23		24			25	26	27
28	29	30			31		32				
33				34		35		36			
37				38		39		40			
41				42		43					
			44			45		46		47	48
49	50	51	52		53		54		55		
56					57				58		
59					60					61	

ACROSS

- 1 Napkin's place
- 4 Lass
- 7 Sense
- 11 Concerning
- 13 Parisian pal
- 14 Desire
- 15 Sir's counterpart
- 16 Solidify
- 17 Boxer Spinks
- 18 Cairo's nation
- 20 Go yachting
- 22 Pinnacle
- 24 Pastry hybrid
- 28 The "sun" in "sunny side up"
- 32 Earlier, in verse
- 33 Blood vessel
- 34 Feminine principle
- 36 Intimate
- 37 Draw a conclusion
- 39 Regret
- 41 Spills the beans
- 43 Granola grain
- 44 Go sightseeing
- 46 Declines
- 50 Ballet leap
- 53 Blend
- 55 Tiny bit
- 56 Dread
- 57 Journalist Nellie
- 58 Trenches
- 59 Beer barrels

DOWN

- 60 "— who?"
- 61 "Unh-unh"
- 26 Grecian vessels
- 27 Head, to Henri
- 28 Satan's forte
- 29 Hereditary unit
- 30 Present
- 31 White wine cocktail
- 35 Ultra-modernist
- 38 Aussie hopper
- 40 Gullet
- 42 Desensitizes
- 45 Anger
- 47 Subject, usually
- 48 Jazz singer
- 49 Merit badge holder
- 50 NYC airport
- 51 Shoe width
- 52 Label
- 54 Alphabet end

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	R	E	T	E	B	A	R	E	S
U	N	I	S	O	N	U	N	C	L
T	A	P	P	E	R	S	T	A	D
I	L	K	D	O	W	S	E	E	L
C	O	E	N	N	A	T	A	S	O
A	G	N	E	W	C	O	U	N	T
				L	E	A	P	S	I
P	O	U	L	T	R	Y	A	M	A
O	N	L	Y	L	O	A	A	R	O
E	S	C	S	E	U	S	S	E	R
T	I	E	P	I	N	S	U	L	T
S	T	R	O	D	E	A	R	C	H
E	S	S	E	S		M	E	D	A

11-26

CRYPTOQUIP

WZZMTQRR MDQV JCZLD
VDVTDAL QRR WQLCNZU
MAQIDVQAH MJNML N U
MCDNA CQNA: MCD ZQHRQUI
TAQNIDAL.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU HAVE PROFOUND REVERENCE FOR A CERTAIN ROMAN EMPEROR, WOULD YOU CALL THAT NERO-WORSHIP?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals M


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Announcements 040

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Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classifieds advertisements.

Be aware of the common red flags.

Some of the latest Scam fads are:

- Vehicle buyers wanting to buy sight unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.
- People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

Automotive 140

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NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
New England	7	3	0	.700	239 205
Baltimore	5	5	0	.500	237 181
Buffalo	3	7	0	.300	137 251
N.Y. Jets	3	7	0	.300	208 254

NATIONAL CONFERENCE					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Houston	7	3	0	.700	239 205
Indianapolis	5	5	0	.500	238 249
Tennessee	5	5	0	.500	178 189
Jacksonville	3	7	0	.300	176 219

West					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Pittsburgh	7	2	1	.750	299 225
Baltimore	5	5	0	.500	237 181
Cincinnati	5	5	0	.500	256 213
Cleveland	3	7	1	.350	218 263

East					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Dallas	6	2	0	.750	234 213
Washington	6	2	0	.750	228 213
Philadelphia	4	4	0	.500	240 213
N.Y. Giants	3	6	1	.333	215 263

N.Y. Giants	3	7	0	.300
	South			
New Orleans	10	1	0	.909
Carolina	6	4	0	.600
Atlanta	4	7	0	.364
Tampa Bay	3	7	0	.300

Tampa Bay	3	7	0	.300
	North			
Chicago	8	3	0	.727
Minnesota	5	4	1	.550
Green Bay	4	5	1	.450
Detroit	4	7	0	.364

	West			
L.A. Rams	10	1	0	.909
Seattle	5	5	0	.500
Arizona	2	8	0	.200
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200

East					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Thursdays games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Sundays games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Monday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Tuesday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Wednesday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Thursday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Friday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Saturday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Sunday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Monday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Tuesday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Wednesday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

Thursday's games					
	W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Chicago	2	8	0	.200	230 266
Washington	2	8	0	.200	230 266
San Francisco	2	8	0	.200	230 266

College basketball

Men's Top 25 fared

Saturday

1. Duke (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. Indiana, Tuesday.

2. Kansas (5-0) did not play. Next: vs. Stanford, Saturday, Dec. 1.

3. Gonzaga (6-0) did not play. Next: vs. North Dakota State, Monday.

4. Virginia (6-0) did not play. Next: at Maryland, Wednesday.

5. Tennessee (4-1) did not play. Next: vs. Texas Tech, Wednesday.

6. Nevada (6-0) did not play. Next: at Loyola of Chicago, Tuesday.

7. North Carolina (6-1) did not play. Next: at No. 3 Michigan, Wednesday.

8. Auburn (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. Saint Peter's, Monday.

9. Michigan (6-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 7 North Carolina, Monday.

10. Kentucky (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. Monmouth, Wednesday.

11. Michigan State (5-1) did not play. Next: at Louisville, Tuesday.

12. Kansas State (6-0) beat Saint Francis 77-58, at Marquette, Saturday.

13. Virginia Tech (5-0) beat Saint Francis 77-58, at Marquette, Saturday.

14. Florida State (5-0) did not play. Next: vs. Villanova, Sunday.

15. Mississippi State (4-1) did not play. Next: vs. Alcorn State, Monday.

16. Clemson (5-0) did not play. Next: vs. Nebraska, Monday.

17. LSU (4-2) did not play. Next: vs. Hawaii, Wednesday.

18. TCU (3-1) did not play. Next: vs. Eastern Michigan, Monday.

19. LSU (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma State, Monday.

20. Iowa (5-0) did not play. Next: vs. Pittsburgh, Tuesday.

21. Oregon (4-1) did not play. Next: vs. Texas Southern, Monday.

22. West Virginia (5-0) beat Marist 76-49, at Seattle, Wednesday.

23. Ohio State (6-0) did not play. Next: vs. Seattle, Wednesday.

24. Purdue (5-1) did not play. Next: at No. 14 Florida State, Wednesday.

25. Wisconsin (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. N.C. State, Tuesday.

Saturday's men's scores

EAST

American U, 73, UMBC 69

Colgate 78, Sacred Heart 67

Bufile 76, Marist 46

Calgate 84, Siena 78

Georgetown 70, Manhattan 43

Georgetown 93, Campbell 85

Hardford 93, Western New England 53

De Montfort 77, Centennial 66

College St.

NY 77, NY Brooklyn 70

Penn 112, Stockton 63

Princeton 60, Monmouth (NJ) 57

Providence 91, Iona 79

Rider 89, Wagner 65

St. Francis Brooklyn 75, Niagara 63

Stony Brook 68, Rhode Island 58

UConn 91, New Hampshire 66

Western Mich. 90, Valparaiso 76

SOUTH

Belmont 91, Kennesaw 58

Cincinnati 71, Mississippi 57

Davidson 78, Northeastern 69

UT 79, at Dakota 51

Gardner-Webb 81, UNC-Wilmington 72

High Point 55, East Carolina 52

Howard 85, California Baptist 55

James Madison 78, N. Illinois 74

Murray 57, Missouri 56

NC Central 83, Southern Miss 66

NC State 78, Mercer 74

New Orleans 97, Governors State 93

Nicholls 62, Wilchman 61

North Carolina 80, Alabama 55

The Citadel 84, South Florida 81

Troy 77, North Alabama 58

UNC 86, N. Kentucky 66

UNC-Greensboro 80, Louisiana Tech 73

VCU 69, Hofstra 67

Virginia Tech 57, Saint Joseph's 38

William & Mary 87, Saint Joseph's 85

Winthrop 116, Warren Wilson 76

MIDWEST

Bd 82, Evansville 72

Bradley 86, Chicago 57

Detroit 78, E. Michigan 74

E. Illinois 90, Arkansas 86

U of I 80, Grambling 70

Ill. Chicago 94, UAW-Parkside 74

Indiana 85, Lindenwood 79

Indiana 83, W. Kentucky 54

Kansas 77, Lehigh 58

Marshall (Ohio) 85, Army 55

Nebaska 75, W. Illinois 49

North Dakota 88, Montana 52

Notre Dame 85, DePaul 70

Oakland 87, Oral Roberts 76

Ohio 85, Austin Peay 82

Saint Louis 73, Cent. Arkansas 61

SMU 94, Avila 55

SOUTHWEST

Ark. Pine Bluff 75, UALR 66

Arizona 82, Michigan State 80

North Texas 75, St. Peter's 66

S. Illinois 79, Tulsa 69

Utah State 93, N. Colorado 62

Omaha 4, Arizona 0

North Dakota 88, Montana 52

Bemidji 34, Minnesota State 0

Providence 4, Denver 4

Denver 64, Longwood 62

Harvard 74, Saint Mary's (Cal) 68

Houston 76, BYU 62

Loyola Marymount 71, Florida A&M 63

New Mexico 84, UTEP 78

Pacific 65, Elon 57

Portland St. 91, Northwest Nazarene 75

San Diego 77, St. Cal. St.-Fullerton 82

Sacramento 76, Arkansas 57

San Francisco 84, Dartmouth 65

Stevens Clara 71, San Jose 53

Seattle 83, Fairfield 80

UC Santa Barbara 66, Idaho 55

HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE BASKETBALL

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR: CROSS COUNTRY



Akimanzi Siibo, Kinnick

By DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

Most cross country runners say they don't worry as much about their opponents as how they are doing on the course themselves.

But given how his rivals played a virtual game of stopwatch leapfrog with each other throughout the season, Akimanzi Siibo said he couldn't help but be concerned about them.

"I definitely did my research, looked at the times and what they were capable of and I was worried," said Siibo, a Kinnick senior who, in the end, won every meaningful race and posted the Pacific's top time of the season.

Siibo went undefeated in nine races, including the DODEA Japan finals on Oct. 20 at Yokota where he ran the region's top time of 16 minutes, 8.3 seconds, the Kanto Plain finals a week later, and the Far East meet on Nov. 5 when he clocked 16:44.5 at Misawa Air Base, Japan.

For those feats, Siibo has been named Stars and Stripes Pacific's boys cross country Athlete of the Year.

The 16:08.3 was a school record for a 3.12-mile race, and he came within .3 seconds of the region's top time in the past four years, set in 2015 by Yokota's Daniel Galvin. Siibo also set the school record on the 2.9-mile Tama Hills Recreation Center course, clocking 15:12.1.

"He's by far the most talented kid to run at Kinnick," coach Luke Voth said of Siibo, who was chiefly responsible for being the leader of a Red Devils team comprised of underclassmen, but finished first in DODEA Japan and second in the Kanto finals.

Siibo credited runners who came before him at Kinnick, such as Jerry Lotz, the team's leader in 2016, for getting him ready for that responsibility.

"My team, my coach, they all prepared me for that leadership position," Siibo said. "As a freshman and a sophomore, I was looking up to those guys. They helped me mature not just physically, but mentally. Then, when I was a junior, a lot of freshmen came in, and I had to assume that leadership role."

He took the advice that he gave his teammates in the Far East race.

"I just told my teammates not to worry, run your race, do what you could do. And that's what I did," Siibo said.

Siibo had company the entire way at the Far East meet with American School In Japan's Trevor McAuliffe on his right shoulder, and Trevor Williams of Kaduna and Perry's Owen Young in trail.

"Running with Trevor all the way also worried me, but I wasn't too worried," Siibo said. "I was focusing on myself; otherwise, I'd have been too nervous or would have fallen off."

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Angelique Armijo, Perry

By DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

A year ago, Angelique Armijo was serving, setting and diving for digs on the Perry volleyball team.

But her passion — running — gave way to a change in sports this fall, and led to very unexpected success for her, at least as she tells it.

The diminutive junior went unbeaten during the DODEA Japan regular season, knocking several seconds off her time almost every time out.

She posted a DODEA Pacific best time of 19 minutes, 44 seconds in winning the DODEA Japan finals, then took the Division II title and second overall in the Far East meet on Nov. 5 at Misawa Air Base, Japan.

For those accolades, Armijo has been named Stars and Stripes Pacific's girls cross country Athlete of the Year.

"It's pretty surreal," Armijo said. "Going into the season and making the switch from volleyball, I never really expected to be good."

Armijo played volleyball since her freshman year after her family moved to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni from Yuma, Ariz., "and it was a big switch" to cross country, Armijo said. She had already earned a spot on the volleyball team in September before switching to cross country.

"I feel badly that it had to be right after I made the volleyball team, but I was more passionate about running," Armijo said.

It was a mixed bag of feelings, she said. "I felt like I was disappointing someone," Armijo said of switching. "I had friends on the volleyball team I'd been close with. ... People asked me why I was doing it, but ... my friends, my parents, they're supportive of everything I do. Like me, they didn't know something so great would come out of it."

Her mother has been running marathons for years, and Armijo said she felt it was something that the two of them could enjoy together. Thus, Armijo started running "almost every day for months," she said.

"It was a stress reliever, something I didn't think I would do competitively," Armijo said.

But her days at Iwakuni are numbered; she and her family are due to transfer back to Yuma, Ariz., the place of her birth, following the school year. "So, I wanted to give it a shot," she said.

She went from running a 22:41 in the first meet to trimming 1:45 off her time a week later, then clocking 20:44, before slicing off another minute with that DODEA Pacific best time on Oct. 13.

"Something good came out of it and that's what's so unbelievable," Armijo said. "I didn't expect all of it. No one could have predicted it."

Armijo said she couldn't have done it without the support of her teammates.

"I'm grateful to have had a part in something so great," Armijo said. "I'm going to miss it a lot."

Top 25 roundup

Wade takes over for Kansas State

Associated Press

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Dean Wade knew Kansas State was in need of a spark, and he took it upon himself to provide it.

Wade scored 14 of his 18 points in the second half, Barry Brown added 16 and No. 12 Kansas State beat Lehigh 77-58 on Saturday.

"The first half we weren't playing with any emotion or energy so my main focus was to do that," Wade said. "I just wanted to be aggressive, but smart."

The Wildcats (6-0) controlled the second half after the Mountain Hawks hung around and trailed by two at halftime.

"I think we wore them down as the game went on," coach Bruce Weber said. "I told our guys these guys are pretty good and I didn't think we played very good defense in the first half."

Kamau Stokes scored 10 points, including two first-half three-pointers, but the Wildcats continued to struggle with their long-distance shooting at home, going just 6-for-20 from beyond the arc.

James Karnik had 15 points and eight rebounds for Lehigh (4-2), and Pat Andrew scored 12. Lehigh compiled 16 turnovers and made just nine field goals in the second half, shooting 28 percent. Lehigh shot 54 percent in the first half.

The Wildcats scored 18 points off Lehigh's turnovers.

"Our defense is always something we take pride in," Brown said. "We just focused on getting stops every time and we were able to get some easy baskets off those."

Brown converted a three-point play to give K-State a 50-40 lead with 14 minutes remaining. That was part of a 12-5 run by the Wildcats that gave them a 57-45 lead.

Kansas State led 37-35 at halftime as neither team build a lead larger than five in the first 20 minutes. The Wildcats struggled against the Mountain Hawks' matchup zone.

"We don't see that very often and it's even a hard thing to practice," Weber said. "We needed to move the basketball and look inside and keep it going. They got us a little stagnant at times, but once we settled down we were able to find some things."

Kansas State is off to its best start since 2004-05, when it won its first eight games. The Wildcats face Marquette next Saturday in their first road game of the season.

"This is a chance to take a big step as a team, but Marquette is a very good team," Weber said. "They beat Louisville and played Kansas well, so it's going to be a tough test."

No. 13 Virginia Tech 75, St. Francis (Pa) 37: Ahmed Hill scored eight of his 19 points during a 24-6 run spanning halftime for host Virginia Tech.

The Hokies (5-0) led 23-20 when a three-pointer by Ty Outlaw sparked a 10-2 run to end the first half. Nickell Alexander-Walker made another three-pointer right after halftime, one of 14 threes for Virginia Tech, and two threes and a basket from Hill and a three-point play by Justin Robinson pushed the lead to 47-26.

Myles Thompson led the Red Flash (1-4) with 14 points. St. Francis shot just 25.9 percent (15-for-58) and committed 22 turnovers.

No. 22 Buffalo 76, Marist 49: CJ Massinburg scored 21 points, Jayvon Graves added 16 and Buffalo overcame a slow start to beat Marist.

Massinburg returned after missing one game with a sprained knee and shot 7-for-10 from the field with six three-pointers in 25 minutes off the bench.

Jeremy Harris had eight assists and Nick Perkins pulled down seven rebounds for the Bulls in their second blowout victory at home.



JEFFREY T. BARNES/AP

Buffalo guard Jeremy Harris (2) drives to the net over Marist forward Isaiah Lamb (4) during the first half Saturday in Buffalo, N.Y.

NBA



Golden State's Klay Thompson, left, and Kevin Durant celebrate after a basket during the second half against the Sacramento Kings on Saturday in Oakland, Calif. The Warriors won 117-116.

Roundup

Warriors edge Kings

Durant's 44, Thompson's follow shot lift Golden State

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Klay Thompson put back his own miss with 5 seconds left, Kevin Durant scored a season-high 44 points, and the Golden State Warriors barely held off the Sacramento Kings 117-116 on Saturday night in a wild finish between the Northern California neighbors.

Durant converted two free throws with 1:27 left and also had 13 rebounds and seven assists, while Thompson wound up with 31 points — the second straight night the two each scored 30 or more.

Bucks 135, Spurs 129: Giannis Antetokounmpo had 34 points and 18 rebounds, rallying Milwaukee from an 11-point deficit in the fourth quarter to beat visiting San Antonio.

Antetokounmpo scored 14 points in the final period, heaving chants of "MVP! MVP!" each time he stepped to the free throw line. But he had plenty of help, with Malcolm Brogdon adding 23 points, Kris Middleton 21 and Eric Bledsoe finishing with 20 points and 10 assists.

Nericks 113, Celtics 104: J.J. Barea scored 20 points with a key three-pointer that helped put Dallas in control in the fourth quarter, and the Mavericks won their sixth straight home game.

Teenage rookie Luka Doncic led 15 points and matched Barea with eight assists as the Mavericks (9-9) got back to .500 with their seventh win in nine games.

Cavaliers 117, Rockets 108: Rookie Collin Sexton scored a season-high 29 points and host Cleveland overcame 40 points by Houston's James Harden to win consecutive games for the first time this season.

Cleveland (4-14) won 121-112 in Philadelphia on Friday and rode that momentum against the Rockets, who played without star point guard Chris Paul.

Nuggets 105, Thunder 98: Jamal Murray scored 22 points to help visiting Denver beat Oklahoma City.

Nikola Jokic and Trey Lyles each scored 16 points and Juancho Hernangomez added 15 for the Nuggets, who won their third straight.

Wizards 124, Pelicans 114: Otto Porter Jr. scored a season-high 29 points and eight assists, and host Washington beat New Orleans.

Bradley Beal also finished with 18, one of six Wizards to score in double figures on a night the Pelicans were without injured All-Star forward Anthony Davis.

Bulls 96: Karl-Anthony Towns had 35 points and 22 rebounds, Derrick Rose scored 22 points off the bench and Minnesota pulled away in the fourth quarter to beat visiting Chicago.

Jeff Teague added 18 points for Minnesota, which won for the fifth time in seven games, as trading Jimmy Butler to Philadelphia.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	15	4	.789	—
Philadelphia	13	8	.619	3 1/2
Boston	10	10	.500	6 1/2
Brooklyn	8	12	.400	8 1/2
New York	14	3	.824	1 1/2

Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Charlotte	9	9	.500	—
Orlando	10	10	.500	—
Miami	11	7	.611	1 1/2
Washington	7	12	.368	7 1/2
Atlanta	3	16	.158	15 1/2

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	14	7	.737	—
Indiana	11	8	.579	2 1/2
Detroit	7	12	.368	7 1/2
Chicago	5	15	.250	9 1/2
Cleveland	4	14	.222	9 1/2

Western Conference

Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Memphis	12	6	.667	—
San Antonio	10	5	.667	—
Dallas	9	5	.643	1 1/2
Houston	9	9	.500	3 1/2

Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	13	6	.688	—
Portland	12	7	.632	1 1/2
Oklahoma City	10	7	.588	3 1/2
Minnesota	11	4	.733	1 1/2
Utah	11	4	.729	1 1/2

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	14	7	.667	—
L.A. Clippers	12	7	.632	1 1/2
L.A. Lakers	11	6	.646	1 1/2
Sacramento	9	8	.526	3 1/2
Phoenix	4	14	.222	11 1/2

Friday's games				
Minnesota 112, Brooklyn 102				
L.A. Clippers 117, Memphis 107				
Orlando 103, Chicago 96				
Boston 114, Atlanta 96				
Cleveland 121, Philadelphia 112				
New York 114, New Orleans 109				
Toronto 125, Washington 107				
San Antonio 111, Indiana 104				
Oklahoma City 106, Charlotte 104				
Phoenix 116, Milwaukee 114				
Orlando 112, Portland 97				
Golden State 125, Portland 97				
L.A. Lakers 90, Utah 83				

Saturday's games				
Cleveland 117, Houston 108				
Denver 105, Oklahoma City 98				
Minnesota 111, Chicago 96				
Washington 124, New Orleans 114				
Dallas 113, Boston 104				
Golden State 117, Sacramento 116				
Milwaukee 105, San Antonio 112				

Sunday's games				
Charlotte 114, Lakers 102				
Orlando at Atlanta				
Phoenix at Detroit				
Charlotte at Atlanta				
Miami at Toronto				
New York at Memphis				
Philadelphia at Brooklyn				
Utah at Sacramento				
L.A. Clippers at Portland				

Monday's games				
Milwaukee at Charlotte				
Minnesota at Cleveland				
Boston at New Orleans				
San Antonio at Chicago				
Golden State at Houston				
Orlando at Golden State				
L.A. Lakers at Denver				

Tuesday's games				
New York at Detroit				
Atlanta at Miami				
Toronto at Memphis				
Indiana at Phoenix				
L.A. Lakers at Denver				

Wednesday's games				
Warriors 117, Rockets 108				
Thunder 98, Nuggets 105				
Pelicans 114, Wizards 124				
Bucks 135, Spurs 129				
Celtics 104, Nericks 113				
Bulls 96, Hawks 101				
Trail Blazers 107, Pistons 101				
Knicks 112, Magic 100				
Grizzlies 101, Hornets 95				
Heat 103, Pistons 101				
76ers 101, Nets 95				
Clippers 117, Pistons 101				
Trail Blazers 107, Pistons 101				
Knicks 112, Magic 100				
Grizzlies 101, Hornets 95				
Heat 103, Pistons 101				
76ers 101, Nets 95				
Clippers 117, Pistons 101				

Thursday's games				
Warriors 117, Rockets 108				
Thunder 98, Nuggets 105				
Pelicans 114, Wizards 124				
Bucks 135, Spurs 129				
Celtics 104, Nericks 113				
Bulls 96, Hawks 101				
Trail Blazers 107, Pistons 101				
Knicks 112, Magic 100				
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Heat 103, Pistons 101				
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Grizzlies 101, Hornets 95				
Heat 103, Pistons 101				
76ers 101, Nets 95				
Clippers 117, Pistons 101				

4-8 3-3 12, Giles III 4-5 2-3 10, Bagley
7-15 6-8 20, Mason 1-3 2-2 4, Bogdanov
3-9 2-2 10, Williams 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 42-
21-29 116.

SPORTS BRIEFS/COLLEGE FOOTBALL

49ers cut LB Foster

The San Francisco 49ers released linebacker Reuben Foster on Sunday, hours after he was arrested at the team hotel in Tampa, Fla., on charges of domestic violence.

An arrest report from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's office said Foster was booked into jail at 11:11 p.m. Saturday and was being held without bail. Foster was arrested by Tampa police at 9:10 p.m. at the Grand Hyatt hotel, where the team is staying before playing the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Sunday.

The team sent out a one-sentence news release Sunday morning saying it had cut Foster.

The 24-year-old Foster was charged with one count of first-degree misdemeanor domestic violence. Tampa Police spokeswoman Janelle McGregor said a woman told police that Foster slapped her phone out of her hand, pushed her in the chest area and slapped her with an open hand on the right side of her face. McGregor said officers observed a 1-inch scratch on the accuser's left collarbone.

Ditka recovering

CHICAGO — Hall of Fame tight end and former Chicago Bears coach Mike Ditka is recovering from a mild heart attack.

Steve Mandell, Ditka's agent, tells ESPN that doctors inserted a pacemaker. He says Ditka is "doing much better," and the iconic coach "appreciates the outpouring of support and expects to be home soon."

Ditka, 79, played 12 seasons in the NFL and made the Pro Bowl five times.

Ditka coached the Bears and the New Orleans Saints, finishing with a 121-95 record in 14 years, and he led Chicago to the Super Bowl title after the 1985 season.

UNC fires Fedora

RALEIGH, N.C. — North Carolina football coach Larry Fedora is out after seven seasons.

The school announced the decision in a news release Sunday morning. That came less than a day after an overtime loss to rival North Carolina State that dropped the Tar Heels to 2-9 and concluded with a brawl between the teams in the end zone after the Wolfpack scored the winning touchdown.

Fedora's exit completes a swift fall. The program won 11 games and an Atlantic Coast Conference division championship in 2015. UNC slipped to 8-5 the next season and then went 5-18 over the past two seasons.

Hamilton wins 11th

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — World champion Lewis Hamilton coasted to victory from pole position at the season-ending Abu Dhabi Grand Prix on Sunday.

Having already secured a fifth F1 title, the British Mercedes driver beat Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel at the Yas Marina circuit to secure his 11th win of the season and 73rd of his career.

Red Bull driver Max Verstappen finished third.

— Associated Press

By RALPH D. RUSSO

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — This season for Ohio State has been anything but normal, beginning with its celebrated coach suspended for three games.

There have been spotty performances and troubling trends on both sides of the ball. There has been constant speculation and questions about Urban Meyer's health and future.

After all that, it was business as usual against Michigan, and now the Buckeyes are right where they always expected to be.

Dwayne Haskins threw six touchdown passes, freshman Chris Olave had a breakout performance and No. 10 Ohio State continued its mastery over No. 4 Michigan with a record-setting 62-39 victory Saturday that sends the Buckeyes to the Big Ten championship game.

"I think we definitely showed the country the Ohio State Buckeyes are still here," offensive tackle Isaiah Prince said.

The Wolverines were two victories away from their first conference championship since 2004 and a trip to the College Football Playoff, facing an underdog Ohio State team that has looked discombobulated on defense and one-dimensional on offense for much of the season. Looking to snap a six-game losing streak against the Buckeyes (11-1, 8-1, No. 10 CFP) and get coach Jim Harbaugh his first victory in the rivalry known simply as The Game, the Wolverines (10-2, 8-1, No. 4 CFP) wilted.

"Motivated to come back and make darn sure it doesn't happen again," Harbaugh said. "Win our next game, that's our motivation now."

By GREG BEACHAM

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Notre Dame's offensive skill players gathered on the sideline and looked up at an unfamiliar sight on the scoreboard: The Fighting Irish hadn't faced a double-digit deficit at any point in their perfect season before Southern California jumped to a 10-0 lead Saturday night.

With their national championship dreams suddenly in a wee bit of trouble, running back Dexter Williams spoke up.

"Somebody has got to make a play!" Williams shouted.

Ian Book and Chris Finkle did just that on Notre Dame's next drive, and Williams did it himself right after halftime.

By the time the Irish were they making plays at the Coliseum, they were well on the way to the College Football Playoff with the Jeweled Shillelagh firmly in hand.

Book passed for 352 yards, Williams went 52 yards on a go-ahead touchdown run and No. 3 Notre Dame completed an unbeaten regular season and likely secured a playoff spot with a 24-17 over longtime rival USC.

"It brings tears to your eyes," Notre Dame cornerback Julian Love said. "So much is put into this, and it was very tough at times. It just feels so good to get here. Nothing has been handed to us. USC was struggling this year, but they weren't just going to hand it to us. We had to go out



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Notre Dame quarterback Ian Book, left, avoids a tackle by USC cornerback Isaiah Langley on Saturday in USC's games.

there and seize it."

Finkle made an exceptional TD catch for the first score by the Fighting Irish (12-0, No. 3 CFP), who showed playoff-level tenacity in rallying from their largest deficit of the season. Tony Jones Jr. then took a short pass 51 yards for a touchdown with 3:09 to play to finish off Notre Dame's 10th perfect regular season since 1945, the first since 2012.

"It's something I dreamed about, so to have it really be like that, it's a surreal moment," said Book, the Californian who improved to 9-0 as Notre Dame's starter, including 8-0 this year. "This whole team, we're just so fortunate to be here. USC, they

played great. We knew they had a great defense, and to be able to finish the season off undefeated in a rivalry game, you can't ask for anything better than that."

Williams rushed for 97 yards as the Irish overcame a slow start in the 90th edition in this famed intersectional rivalry. Notre Dame didn't score until Finkle's TD catch shortly before halftime, but the Irish ran off 24 consecutive points and shut out USC in the second half until Tyler Vaughns' TD catch with 48 seconds to play.

Notre Dame is all but certain to be chosen for the four-team playoff, and this win could keep the Irish away from powerhouse Alabama in the first postseason

In the 115th meeting between two of college football's most storied programs, Ohio State scored more points than it ever had against Michigan — more points than any team has ever scored in regulation against Michigan.

And now, despite all the dysfunction at Ohio State this season — both on and off the field — the Buckeyes will face No. 20 Northwestern next week in Indianapolis with a chance to repeat as Big Ten champs and maybe even make the playoff.

Maybe most satisfying of all, Ohio State has won 14 of the last 15 meetings against the team it loves to beat the most.

"This is not an ordinary game," Buckeyes defensive tackle Dre'Mont Jones said. "This is a game that's got years and miles behind."

Olave, who came into the game with five catches and no touchdowns, caught two TD passes in the first half and broke it open on special teams in the third quarter. He leaped through a seam in the line and got a chunk of Will Hart's punt. The ball sailed off high and to the side and landed in the arms of Seyvyn Banks, who cruised 33 yards for a touchdown that made it 34-19 and sent the Ohio Stadium crowd into a frenzy.

Haskins and the Buckeyes carved up the top-ranked defense in the country for 567 yards. The Buckeyes had the Horseshoe rocking when Haskins found Johnnie Dixon wide open for a 31-yard score to go up 21-6 with 3:18 left in the first half.

Haskins finished with 396 yards and set the Big Ten season record for TD passes with 42. Shea Patterson passed for 187 yards and three touchdowns for Michigan.

Harbaugh is 0-4 against Ohio State and faces another year of critics questioning his



JAY LAPRETE/AP

Ohio State quarterback Dwayne Haskins threw six touchdown passes in the Buckeyes' 62-39 win on Saturday at Columbus, Ohio.

ability to win the big game. He took ownership of a complete collapse by Michigan, but his players were not letting the coach take all the blame.

"I don't know why he would take any heat after this loss, he took a lot last year and even this year when we were winning. We have a chance for an (11-win) season," Patterson said. "I know that's not our ultimate expectation, but we have a chance to win 11 games and I think that's a successful season."

game. The Irish celebrated with ferocity in the Coliseum locker room, with their shouts echoing through the old walls into the USC room.

"It's just such an emotional high," Irish linebacker Drue Tranquill said. "We were just dancing in there. I can't really dance, but I was trying."

J.T. Daniels passed for 349 yards for the Trojans (5-7), who will stay home for the bowl season after their first losing season since 2000. Vaughns caught 12 passes for 120 yards in what might have been the final game for coach Clay Helton, who is under pressure after the Trojans lost five of their final six games in a dismaying collapse.

USC athletic director Lynn Swann didn't make an immediate announcement on Helton's future. "The best is yet to be, I truly believe that," Helton said. "I watched the men that are out there, both old and young, and see guys that are truly talented individuals that will develop into a quality football team that can win championships. I know that and I believe that in them."

After USC won eight straight over Notre Dame in the 2000s, the Irish have won six of the last nine meetings in this classic college football matchup. Notre Dame is the first road team to win in the series since 2012, when the Irish also completed an unbeaten regular season with a victory at the Coliseum.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



DANIEL LIN, DAILY NEWS-RECORD/AP

James Madison tight end Dylan Stapleton (84) sneaks in for a touchdown as Delaware defensive back Malcolm Brown attempts to tackle during James Madison's 20-6 FCS first-round playoff win Saturday.

FCS playoff roundup

Jacksonville St. holds off ETSU

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Ala. — Zerrick Cooper threw three touchdown passes to Shaq Davidson and Jacksonville State beat to beat East Tennessee State 34-27 on Saturday night.

Jacksonville State (9-3) will play at seventh-seeded Maine (8-3) in the second round on Saturday. Cooper was 20 of 32 for 226 yards passing and is the first quarterback in the program to surpass 3,000 yards in a season. Davidson had five catches for 69 yards.

Austin Herink was 17-of-39 passing for 260 yards with a touchdown and interception East Tennessee State, and his 10-yard run capped the scoring. It was the first playoff appearance for ETSU since 1996.

Trailing 34-27 late in the fourth quarter, Quay Holmes rushed for 20 yards and caught a 25-yard pass to help drive the Buccaneers to the Jacksonville State 4. But Zack Woodard forced Holmes to fumble the ball into the end zone for a touchback with 2:38 to play. ETSU got the ball back with 1:39 left and no timeouts, and drove to their own 44-yard line and the drive ended with an incomplete pass on fourth-and-10.

Northern Iowa 16, Lamar 13: Marcus Weymiller rushed for 128 yards, Trevor Allen ran for 112 and Austin Errthum kicked three field goals as the host Panthers edged the mistake-prone Cardinals.

Errthum kicked field goals in the first, second and fourth quarters, the final one a 35-yarder with 13:09 left for the final three-point margin.

Northern Iowa's Eli Dunne threw a 32-yard touchdown pass to Jalen Rima to tie the game at 13 with two minutes left in the first half.

Lamar scored on a 73-yard pass play from Darrel Colbert to Kirkland Banks on the second play of the game but a botched conversion attempt left the score 6-0. Colbert connected with Case Robison on a 25-yard score later in the first quarter for a 13-3 lead.

James Madison 20, Delaware 6: Ben DiNucci passed for 223 yards and a touchdown and the Dukes' defense clamped down at home.

James Madison (9-3), outgained the Blue Hens 316-185 and had a 15-minute advantage in time of possession against their fellow Colonial Athletic Association team. The two teams didn't play each other in the regular season.

Leading 3-0 after the first quarter on Ethan Ratke's field goal, the Dukes got a safety when John Daka sacked Pat Kehoe and led 12-0 following Marcus Marshall's 4-yard touchdown run that came three plays after De'Angelo Amos returned a punt 37 yards to the Delaware 18.

Southeast Missouri 28, Stony Brook 14: Daniel Saccaterra rushed for three touchdowns and ran for another and the host Redhawks claimed their first FCS playoff victory in program history, scoring all their points in the third quarter in a 28-14 win over Stony Brook on Saturday.

The Seawolves (7-5), making their fourth FCS appearance, outgained Southeast Missouri 404-240 but turned the ball over four times, with three of those miscues leading to touchdowns.

Duquesne 31, Towson 10: A.J. Hines turned a screen pass into a 71-yard touchdown for the lead, rushed for 175 yards and another score and the Dukes won on the road in a relentless downpour.

Duquesne (9-3) lost to William & Mary in 2015 in its only other FCS playoff appearance.

In the first two quarters, Duquesne managed only a Mitch Maczura 32-yard field goal to end the second half, trailing 10-3.

But Daquan Worley scored up the middle on a 48-yard run early in the third quarter to tie the game before Hines took Daniel Parr's pass to the end zone. Parr capped a 10-play drive with a 3-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter before Hines went in from 3 yards out for the final points.

Wofford 19, Elon 7: Freshman Nathan Walker rushed for 90 yards and a touchdown, helping the host Terriers to advance to the second round of the FCS playoffs for the third season in a row.

Wofford rushed it 59 times for 344 yards — with a long of 56 — and a score. The Terriers forced turnovers on the Phoenix's first two drives of the second half on Mason Alstatt's interception and Jireh Wilson's fumble recovery. Breyld Cyphers had a 1-yard touchdown run early in the second quarter and Elon led 7-6 at halftime.

Nicholls State 49, San Diego 30: Chase Fourcade passed for 337 yards and two touchdowns and ran for 82 yards and two more scores to help the host Colonels beat the Toreros.

Dontrell Taylor ran for 124 yards and two touchdowns on 14 carries and Nicholls State amassed 269 yards rushing and 606 yards of total offense.

Taylor had scoring runs of 27 and 49 yards in the first quarter and Fourcade made it 21-7 with a 19-yard keeper with 4:26 left in the first quarter. After a Toreros field goal, the Colonels scored three straight touchdowns to lead 42-10.

Montana St. 35, Incarnate Word 14: Troy Andersen ran for a touchdown and threw for another to lead the host Bobcats.

His touchdown run was his school-record 20th of the season, while his touchdown pass was just his third. He also broke the Big Sky Conference quarterback rushing record midway through the game.

Midshipmen sunk by Green Wave

By BRETT MARTEL
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Tulane coach Willie Fritz looked at the man who'd hired him to turn the Green Wave football program around and held up two fingers.

Athletic Director Troy Dannen said third-year coach signaled his intent to attempt a high-stakes, two-point conversion several snaps before Tulane's decisive drive had even reached the end zone, adding, "I knew he had the play."

Justin McMillan connected with Jactavian Toles for a 26-yard touchdown with 1:27 left, passed back across the field to Charles Jones for the two-point conversion, and Tulane avoided a devastating collapse with a 29-28 victory over Navy to become bowl eligible for the first time since 2013.

"We were doing really well offensively. Our defense was kind of tired," Fritz said. "I went over and told the AD I was going for two — just wanted make sure I still had that contract."

"He said I did, so we went ahead with it."

The game-winning score completed a seven-play series that covered 71 yards in 2:11. It came in direct response to Tash Maloy's 9-yard TD run, which capped a string of 25 straight points that turned Navy's 21-3 halftime deficit into a late, 28-21 lead.

Tulane (6-6, 5-3 AAC) sealed

the win by stopping Navy (3-8, 2-6) in four plays. That allowed the Wave to run out the clock and storm the field in celebration, having won four of its last five games to reach the six-win plateau, normally the benchmark for bowl bids.

Navy quarterback Zach Abey passed for a 73-yard touchdown and caught a 37-yard scoring pass — a sudden surge from a passing game that ranked last in the nation coming in.

"Obviously, that's not really who we are, but in the time of need, we needed to do that and it showed that we were prepared," Abey said.

Abey finished 7-for-13 for 167 yards, including a fourth-down completion that kept alive Navy's go-ahead scoring drive in the fourth quarter.

Sean Williams' interception and 36-yard return to the Tulane 7 set up a short field goal to ignite Navy's second-half rally. Next came Malcolm Perry's halfback pass across the field to Abey.

After Tulane stalled again, Abey found Perry uncovered over the middle for his game-long scoring play, and hit Taylor Jackson in the back of the end zone for a two-point conversion to tie it.

Tulane responded by driving into Navy territory, but Merck Glover's 32-yard field goal attempt hit the right upright, setting up the roller-coaster finish.

Scoreboard

Saturday's scores

EAST	
Johns Hopkins 56, Frostburg St. 27	
Penn. St. 38, Maryland 1	
RPI 21, Brockport 13	
Sleepy Rock 20, New Haven 20	
Syracuse 42, Boston College 21	
Temple 57, UConn 7	
SOUTH	
Alabama 52, Auburn 21	
Appalachian St. 21, Troy 10	
Charlotte 27, FAU 24	
East Tenn. 36, South Carolina 35	
Florida 41, Florida St. 14	
Georgia 45, Georgia Tech 21	
Kentucky 56, Louisville 10	
Liberty 21, Winstate 17	
Liberty 28, New Mexico St. 21	
Louisiana Tech 31, Louisiana-Monroe 28	
Marshall 28, FIU 25	
Miami 24, Pittsburgh 3	
Middle Tennessee 27, UAB 3	
Multnomah 35, Randolph-Macon 6	
NC Central 21, SC State 17	
NC State 34, North Carolina 28	
NC State 48, Grambling St. 20	
Tulane 29, Navy 28	
Valdosta St. 66, Bowie St. 16	
Vanderbilt 38, Tennessee 13	
Kentucky 30, Louisiana Tech 15	
Wake Forest 59, Duke 7	
MIDWEST	
Benedictine (Kan.) 54, Concordia (Mich.) 38	
Bethel (Minn.) 27, North Central (Ill.) 24	
Ferris St. 27, NW Missouri St. 21	
Kansas 38, Kansas State 10	
Kansas 43, Dickinson St. 40	
Marshall 38, North Dakota 10	
Minn. St.-Mankato 24, CSU-Pueblo 10	
Minnesota 37, Wisconsin 15	
Montana State 31, St. Xavier 14	
Mount Union 51, Centre 35	
North Dakota 31, Illinois 16	
Notre Dame Coll. 19, Hillsdale 14	
Ohio St. 42, Michigan 34	
Ouachita 35, Indianapolis 17	
Purdue 28, Indiana 21	
St. John's (Ind.) 35, Baker 23	
St. John's (Minn.) 45, Whitworth 24	
Wis.-Whitewater 54, St. Norbert 21	

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas St. 33, Texas St. 7	
Baylor 35, Texas Tech 24	
Marj. Hardin-Baylor 75, Berry 9	
North Texas 24, UTSA 21	
Prairie View 60, Texas Southern 14	
Rice 27, Old Dominion 13	
Southern Miss. 39, UTEP 7	
TCU 31, Oklahoma St. 24	
Tarleton St. 34, Texas A&M Commerce 28	
Texas A&M 74, LSU 72, TOT 17	
Tul. 27, SMU 24	
FAR WEST	
Arizona St. 41, Arizona 40	
Boise St. 33, Utah St. 24	
Boise St. 43, Colorado St. 21	
Fresno St. 31, San Jose St. 13	
Hawaii 31, San Diego St. 30	
Notre Dame 42, Southern Cal 17	
Stanford 49, UCLA 42	
UNLV 24, Nevada 29	
Utah 35, BYU 27	
Wyoming 31, New Mexico 3	
NCAA FCS playoffs	
First Round	
Saturday	
Duquesne 31, Towson 10	
Wofford 19, Elon 7	
NE Missouri St. 28, Stony Brook 14	
Montana St. 35, Incarnate Word 14	
James Madison 20, Delaware 6	
Nicholls St. 49, San Diego 30	
N. Iowa 16, Lamar 13	
Jacksonville St. 34, ETSU 27	
Second Round	
Saturday	
Jacksonville St. (9-3) at Maine (8-3), Noon	
James Madison (9-3) at Colgate (9-1), 1 p.m.	
Wofford (9-3) at Kennesaw St. (10-1), 2 p.m.	
Montana St. (8-4) at N. Dakota St. (11-0), 3 p.m.	
Duquesne (9-3) at S. Dakota St. (8-2), 3 p.m.	
SE Missouri (9-3) at Weber St. (9-2), 4 p.m.	
Nicholls St. (9-3) at E. Washington (9-2), 5 p.m.	
N. Iowa (7-5) at UC Davis (9-2), 7 p.m.	

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



Ben McKown/AP

Wake Forest's Cade Carney rushes past Duke's Jordan Hayes during the second half on Saturday. Carney rushed for a career-high 223 yards.

Saturday's stars

Tua Tagovailoa, Alabama, matched a school record with five touchdown passes and ran for a score to lead the No. 1 Crimson Tide to a 52-21 victory over Auburn.

Dwayne Haskins, Ohio State, threw five touchdown passes and the No. 10 Buckeyes continued their mastery over No. 4 Michigan with a record-

setting 62-39 victory to reach the Big Ten championship game.

Jake Fromm, Georgia, threw a career-best four TD passes, helping the No. 5 Bulldogs romp into the Southeastern Conference championship game with a 45-21 rout of Georgia Tech.

Cade Carney, Wake Forest, rushed for a career-



Marcio Jose Sanchez/AP

Stanford quarterback K.J. Costello throws against UCLA during the first half on Saturday. Costello threw for 344 yards and a career-high five TDs.

high 223 yards and the Demon Deacons closed out their regular season with a 59-7 win over Duke.

K.J. Costello, Stanford, threw for 344 yards and career-high five TDs leading the Cardinal to a 49-42 victory over UCLA.

Travis Homer, Miami, rushed for 168 yards and

a long TD as the Hurricanes closed their regular season by knocking off No. 24 Pittsburgh 24-3.

Reggie Gallaspy II, North Carolina State, scored his school-record-tying fifth TD on a 1-yard run in overtime in a 34-28 win over North Carolina.

— The Associated Press

How the AP Top 25 fared

1 Alabama (12-0) beat Auburn 52-21. Tua Tagovailoa threw five touchdown passes and ran for a score to lead the No. 1 Crimson Tide to a 52-21 victory over Auburn.

2 Clemson (12-0) beat South Carolina 56-35. Trevor Lawrence threw for a career-high 393 yards, Adam Choice rushed for three touchdowns and Clemson capped a perfect regular season, beating South Carolina for its fifth consecutive rivalry win.

Next vs. No. 5 Georgia, SEC championship, Saturday.

3 Notre Dame (12-0) beat Southern Cal 24-17. Ian Book passed for 352 yards, Dexter Williams went 52 yards on a go-ahead touchdown run and Notre Dame completed an unbeaten regular season. Williams rushed for 97 yards as the Irish overcame a slow start in the 90th edition in this famed intersectional rivalry.

Next vs. No. 24 Pittsburgh, ACC championship, Saturday.

4 Michigan (10-2) lost to No. 10 Ohio State 62-39. In the 115th meeting between two of college football's most storied rivals, Ohio State scored more points than it ever had against Michigan — more points than any team has ever scored in regulation against Michigan.

Next vs. No. 1 Alabama, SEC championship, Saturday.

5 Georgia (11-1) beat Georgia Tech 45-21. Jake Fromm threw four touchdown passes, D'Andre Swift ran for 105 yards and Georgia romped into the SEC championship game. The Bulldogs held a 343-66 edge in total yards, piling up 18 first downs to only four by Georgia Tech.

Next vs. No. 1 Alabama, SEC championship, Saturday.

6 Oklahoma (11-1) beat No. 12 West Virginia 59-56, Friday. Kyler Murray threw three touchdown passes, and the Sooners scored two defensive TDs to earn a spot in the Big 12 championship game. Murray finished 20-for-27 for 364 yards in a matchup of Heisman Trophy hopefuls.

Next vs. No. 11 Texas, Big 12 championship, Saturday.

7 Washington State (10-2) lost to No. 16 Washington 28-15. Washington State was the Pac-12's last hope of finding a way into the College Football Playoff, but the Air Raid was mostly grounded by blowing snow and Washington's steady secondary. Gardner Minshew was 26-for-35 for 152 yards.

Next vs. No. 24 Pittsburgh, ACC championship, Saturday.

8 LSU (9-3) lost to Texas A&M 74-72, 7OT. Kellen Mond's two-point conversion to Kendrick Rogers in the seventh overtime game gave Texas A&M the victory over LSU in a game that tied the record for most overtime in an FBS game.

Next vs. TBD.

9 UCF (11-0) beat South Florida 38-10, Friday. UCF lost quarterback McKenzie Milton to injury but still trounced South Florida to extend the nation's longest winning streak to 24 games and complete a second consecutive undefeated regular season. Milton hurt his right knee at the end of a 5-yard run in the second quarter.

Next vs. Memphis, AAC championship, Saturday.

10 Ohio State (11-1) beat No. 4 Michigan 62-39. Dwayne Haskins threw five touchdown passes, freshman Chris Olave scored twice and blocked a punt that was returned for a TD and the Buckeyes earned their mastery over Michigan and earned a trip to the Big Ten championship game.

Next vs. No. 20 Northwestern, Big Ten championship, Saturday.

11 Texas (8-3) beat Kansas 24-17, Friday. Sam Ehlinger threw for two touchdowns and ran for a score and Texas held off Kansas to reach the Big 12 title game. Tre Watson finished with 79 yards on 14 carries as Texas continued its strong second season under coach Tom Herman.

Next vs. No. 6 Oklahoma, Big 12 championship, Saturday.

12 West Virginia (8-3) lost to No. 6 Oklahoma 59-56, Friday. The Mountaineers lost to Oklahoma for the seventh straight time since joining the Big 12 in 2012. West Virginia's Will Grier threw for four touchdowns and a career-high 539 yards on 32-for-49 passing but lost two fumbles, both of which were returned for touchdowns.

Next vs. TBD.

13 Florida (9-3) beat Florida State 41-14. Felipe Franks had three touchdown passes and the Gators used a punishing ground attack to end a five-game losing streak to Florida State. Lamical Perine ran for 129 yards, averaging 9.9 yards per carry and had a 74-yard touchdown run.

Next vs. TBD.

14 Utah State (10-2) lost to No. 21 Boise State 33-24. Utah State had its 10-game winning streak snapped and had its hopes of earning a berth to one of the New Year's Six bowls dashed.

Next vs. Penn State (9-3) beat Maryland 38-3. Trace McSorley completed 12 of 22 passes for 230 yards and had a hand in three touchdowns to help Penn State rout Maryland. McSorley added 64 rushing yards on 11 carries for the Nittany Lions.

Next vs. TBD.

16 Washington (9-3) beat No. 7 Washington State 28-15, Friday. Myles Gaskin broke free for an 80-yard touchdown run early in the fourth quarter, and Washington won its second Pac-12 North Division title in three years. It was Washington's sixth straight win over the Cougars and the third straight year the Huskies denied Washington State the North crown.

Next vs. San Diego State, Saturday.

17 Kentucky (9-3) beat Louisville 56-10. Terry Wilson accounted for 340 yards and four touchdowns, Benny Snell Jr. rushed for two scores and Kentucky blew out Louisville in the Governor's Cup. The Wildcats scored TDs on all five first-half drives and never trailed in posting their first nine-win regular season since 1977.

Next vs. TBD.

18 Utah (9-3) beat BYU 35-27. Jason Shelley threw for 141 yards and a touchdown and added 61 yards and another score on the ground to rally Utah.

Next vs. No. 16 Washington, Pac-12 championship, Friday.

19 Syracuse (9-3) beat Boston College 42-21. Eric Dungey ran for three touchdowns and threw for 362 yards and three more scores to lead the Orange, who gave up the first score of the game, then scored touchdowns on three straight possessions.

Next vs. TBD.

20 Northwestern (8-4) beat Illinois 24-16. Clayton Thorson accounted for three touchdowns, Isaiah Bowser rushed for 166 yards on 18 carries and Northwestern beat Illinois. Bowser posted his fourth 100-yard game of the season.

Next vs. No. 10 Ohio State, Big Ten championship, Saturday.

21 Boise State (10-2) beat No. 14 Utah State 33-24. Brett Rypien threw for 310 yards and a touchdown and Alexander Mattson rushed for 200 yards and three scores to lead Boise State. Boise State, which has won seven straight since losing to San Diego State on Oct. 6, will host Fresno State for the Mountain West championship.

Next vs. TBD.

22 Mississippi State (8-4) beat Mississippi 35-3, Thursday. Nick Fitzgerald ran for two touchdowns and threw for a score to lead Mississippi State in an Egg Bowl marred by a fight in the second half that led to four ejections. Four players were ejected, and the referee said every player on both teams received an unsportsmanlike penalty.

Next vs. TBD.

23 Army (9-2) did not play. The Black Knights have their first ranking since 1996, a stunning accomplishment considering how long they had been practically noncompetitive against FBS competition. Army will have had three weeks off when it meets Navy.

Next vs. Navy at Philadelphia, Saturday, Dec. 8.

24 Pittsburgh (7-5) lost to Miami 24-3. Travis Homer rushed for 168 yards and a long touchdown, DeJalyl Dallas ran back a punt for one of his two scores and Miami knocked off Pittsburgh.

Next vs. No. 2 Clemson, ACC championship, Saturday.

25 Iowa State (7-4) beat Kansas State 42-38. David Montgomery ran for three touchdowns, including the winner with 4:34 to go, and Iowa State rallied from 17 down in the fourth quarter to snap a 10-game skid against Kansas State. Montgomery had 149 yards rushing for the Cyclones.

Next vs. TBD.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Texas A&M shocks No. 8 LSU in 7 OTs

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — With Texas A&M's game with No. 8 LSU tied at 72-72 in the seventh overtime on Saturday night and the Aggies set to attempt a 2-point conversion, receiver Kendrick Rogers was frantically being tended to on the sideline for severe cramps in his calves.

Rogers was able to get himself together just in time to get back in the game and grab Kellen Mond's 2-point conversion pass that gave A&M a 74-72 victory in a game that tied the NCAA record for most overtimes in an FBS game.

"These are moments you live for, so no matter what's going on with your body, you want to be out there," Rogers said. "So, you just have to talk yourself out of it, just mentally fight through it."

Mond connected with Quartney Davis on a 17-yard throw to tie it at 72. Greedy Williams was called for pass interference on the first 2-point conversion try, giving the Aggies (8-4, 5-3, No. 22 CFP), another shot. After a false start by Texas A&M, Mond found Rogers for the conversion to end it.

Thronges of fans rushed the field to celebrate after the grab by Rogers.

"We showed as a team that we're never going to quit, and we did that for four quarters and way more," Mond said.

Joe Burrow had a 10-yard TD run to put LSU (9-3, 5-3, No. 7 CFP) up 72-66 in the seventh OT, but his 2-point conversion throw failed.

"You had two teams out there refusing to lose and we just made it more play," Texas A&M coach Jimbo Fisher said.

The 74 points LSU allowed are the most ever given up by a ranked team, eclipsing the 73 No. 24 Fresno State gave up to Northern Illinois on Oct. 6, 1990, and the first seven overtime game involving a ranked team.

The 146 combined points are the most in an FBS game in NCAA history.

"It lost track of overtimes ... it is the craziest game ever," Fisher said, looking a bit dazed.

Mond threw for 287 yards and six touchdowns, three 2-point conversions and ran for one more TD as Texas A&M snapped a seven-game skid against LSU



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Texas A&M defensive lineman Tyree Johnson (3) celebrates after sacking LSU quarterback Joe Burrow Saturday.

'We showed as a team that we are never going to quit and we did that for four quarters and way more.'

Kellen Mond
Texas A&M quarterback

and got its first win over the Tigers since 1995.

LSU coach Ed Orgeron's clothes might have already dried by the time this one ended after he was prematurely doused with Gatorade after the Tigers appeared to have a clinching interception in the fourth quarter. But the play was reviewed and it was ruled that Mond's knee was down before the throw, keeping the Aggies alive and setting up the wild finish.

"The momentum kept on changing both ways and the guys responded," Orgeron said. "That was one heck of an overtime, we

just fell one play short. Our guys have nothing to be ashamed about, they fought, they fought hard."

Burrow threw for three touchdowns and ran for three more as the Tigers were denied their first 10-win regular season since 2012 and likely knocked out of contention for a New Year's Day bowl game.

Mond threw a 25-yard TD pass to Jace Sternberger and a 2-point conversion to Rogers in sextuple overtime before Burrow had a 4-yard touchdown run and Burrow ran for a 4-yard TD and threw for the 2-point conversion to push it

to a seventh OT.

Clyde Edwards-Helaire took a pitch from Burrow and launched an 11-yard TD pass to Tory Carter to put the Tigers on top in the fifth overtime, but the 2-point conversion failed. Mond answered with a 6-yard throw to Rogers, but A&M's 2-point try failed, too to send it to the sixth OT.

Mond found Davis on a 19-yard touchdown pass on the last play of regulation to send it to OT. Orgeron felt like the clock ran out before Mond spiked the ball to stop the clock with 1 second.

Both teams kicked field goals in the fourth overtime to send it to the fifth. Burrow threw a 25-yard touchdown pass to Dee Anderson in triple overtime and Justin Jefferson grabbed the 2-point conversion. Rogers made it 49-49 and forced quadruple overtime when he grabbed a 25-yard TD pass and the 2-point conversion.

Both teams settled for field goals in the first overtime.

By the numbers

146

Texas A&M and LSU combined for the most points in an FBS game.

The previous record was 139 set in Western Michigan's 71-68 defeat of Buffalo last season.

74

LSU gave up the most points ever allowed by a ranked team.

SOURCE: Associated Press



BUTCH DILL/AP

Alabama quarterback Tua Tagovailoa (13) threw five touchdown passes and ran for one in a 52-21 win.

Tagovailoa, No. 1 Tide trounce Tigers

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Tua Tagovailoa came out of halftime firing touchdown strikes down the field, and the result was another runaway Alabama victory.

Tagovailoa threw five touchdown passes, ran for a score and could scarcely miss in the second half to lead the top-ranked Crimson Tide to a 52-21 victory over rival Auburn on Saturday.

"We executed on all cylinders on of-

fense coming into that opening drive in the second half, so it's really good," he said.

Tagovailoa and the Crimson Tide (12-0, 8-0 Southeastern Conference, No. 1 CFP) took over with an explosive third quarter, when the Heisman Trophy contender threw three long touchdown passes. He's the first Alabama player to have a hand in six TDs in a game and matched the school record with the five scoring passes.

Now, "Bama heads to the SEC championship game against No. 5 Georgia

with a guaranteed playoff spot on the line. With Alabama leading Auburn (7-5, 3-5) just 17-14 at halftime, Tagovailoa launched the Tide into another SEC blowout. He was 11-of-12 passing for 208 yards and four touchdowns in the second half, despite only finishing off one series in the fourth quarter.

Tagovailoa finished 25 of 32 for 324 yards and ran for 26 yards, including a 7-yard touchdown and a 21-yard third-down conversion on runs.

"I thought 'Tua was into it,'" Alabama coach Nick Saban said.

SPORTS



Seven OTs
Aggies outlast No. 8 LSU in
record-tying victory » **Page 31**

Let the debate begin

Ohio State, Oklahoma make cases for inclusion in College Football Playoff

By RALPH D. RUSSO
Associated Press

The twist the playoff race has been waiting for came Saturday. The debate, for now, is between Ohio State and Oklahoma.

History suggests it was inevitable. The top four had never stayed the same for three straight weeks until this past one and to expect it to hold steady for two more was unrealistic.

Still, how thoroughly No. 10 Ohio State dismantled No. 4 Michigan was startling, and it could cause the College Football Playoff selection committee to rethink a lot of what has happened so far with the Buckeyes. We could be heading toward a Big Ten vs. Big 12 in the board room where the committee meets. The essential questions: Which team has the worse defense, No. 6 Oklahoma or Ohio State? Does hanging 62 on No. 4 Michigan make up for allowing 49 to Purdue? The Buckeyes have done both.

How far the Buckeyes (No. 10 CFP) move up Tuesday could be telling and impor-

tant. They should go past Washington State, which was sitting at eighth but lost the Apple Cup on Friday to Washington. But can they bounce all the way to sixth, edging ahead of the Sooners, who beat West Virginia to reach the Big 12 title game? Tyler Murray and Oklahoma have won four straight games in which they have allowed at least 40 points. The Sooners' defense is terrible. Ohio State has been a little better.

Ohio State gets No. 20 Northwestern (8-4) this week in Indianapolis to make one more statement. The Sooners (11-1) get a rematch with Texas (9-3), with a chance to avenge a three-point loss in October.

Aside from the ugly loss at Purdue, the Buckeyes have had close calls against Nebraska (4-8) and Maryland (5-7). The Sooners dodged upsets against Texas Tech (5-7) and Oklahoma State (6-6).

Ohio State has beaten Michigan, Penn State (9-3) and Michigan State (7-5). OU has beaten West Virginia (8-3) and Iowa State (7-4).

Neither Ohio State nor Oklahoma looks championship caliber, but the playoff needs four teams and those two might be the choices.



PHOTOS BY JAYLA PRETE LEFT, AND IAN MAULE, ABOVE/AP

Left: Ohio State receiver Johnnie Dixon, top, celebrates his touchdown against Michigan with a lift from teammate Thayer Munford during the first half of Saturday's game in Columbus, Ohio. Above: Oklahoma coach Lincoln Riley yells after the Sooners' 59-56 win over No. 12 West Virginia on Friday in Morgantown, W.Va.

Notre Dame rallies past USC to stay perfect » **Page 28**

